

Tory strategy to offset Thatcherism

By Richard Evans, Lobby Reporter

The Conservative Party should enter the next general election with a "balanced ticket" to offset Mrs Margaret Thatcher's growing electoral liabilities and to combat the formidable threat posed by Mr Neil Kinnock and the Labour Party, Mr John Biffen, leader of the Commons, said yesterday.

His typically frank comments, which came in the wake of last week's disastrous election results for the Government, immediately sparked off renewed speculation over who will succeed Mrs Thatcher as leader of the party and the future of Mr Norman Tebbit, the increasingly criticized party chairman.

Mr Biffen, who is the nearest thing to the Government guru, said that if the Conservatives won the next election nobody seriously believed Mrs Thatcher would remain Prime Minister until the end of the next parliament. "So there is nothing extraordinary about the balanced ticket of the Prime Minister and some of the most powerful in the Conservative Party, one of whom probably would become Prime Minister in due course, being represented as a team."

There is nothing extraordinary about presenting a team based upon experience and based upon a spread of views as being something which will

be appealing to the public and which will secure their trust. To assume because one party had a dominant figure it thereby benefited at general elections "is not necessarily true at all." Without a team approach it would be much easier for political opponents to represent the Prime Minister as uncaring or trigger-happy, and take advantage of her supposed failings.

"I have no intention we should fall for these kind of accusations. One very sensible

Tebbit lash 12
Leading article 13

way of offsetting it is to represent the Conservative Party along the lines I have indicated."

He added: "The Prime Minister will make her most effective contribution to the Conservative Party by being what she is and not by trying to be something different. Others then have to provide the balance in that situation."

Mr Biffen's comments will delight middle-of-the-road Conservative MPs at Westminster who have been saying privately for some time that a growing number of party activists at constituency level are tiring of Mrs Thatcher's leadership and believe it is a vote loser.

Some MPs will interpret his views as an acceptance that Thatcherism has had its day,

and is now more of a liability than an asset.

Speaking on London Weekend Television's *Weekend World*, Mr Biffen set out the challenge facing the Conservatives against the background of a revamped Labour Party led by Mr Kinnock whose moderate policies were in close proximity to those of the Liberal-Social Democratic Party Alliance.

The main task facing the Government was to set out before the public the choice it faced at the next election. It was between dusted-down Wilson and Callaghan-style policies of the 1960s and 1970s, and the policies of the social market economy developed successfully by the Conservative Party since 1979.

Looking ahead, Mr Biffen emphasized the importance of reforming education policies. He accepted the need for extra public spending on the National Health Service, education, local authority services and road construction.

In an obvious reference to Mr Tebbit's controversially robust style, Mr Biffen insisted the message had to be conveyed in more measured terms, rather than in a hysterical fashion. "I think on the whole we live in a society where government is by explanation and not by preaching," he said.

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Mr Biffen: Call for balanced ticket

Italy holds out on EEC ban

From Richard Owen, Brussels

A ban by all but one EEC country on foodstuffs from Soviet bloc areas affected by Chernobyl is in effective operation after a week of disagreement and indecision.

Italy has yet to join in because of its objections to a proposed scale of radiation measurement for use in trade within the Community.

After a weekend of confusion over whether the proposed EEC ban was in force, a spokesman for The Netherlands, which holds the EEC presidency, said yesterday that 11 of the Twelve were operating their own measures against East European imports in line with EEC proposals.

The ban would be in effect until the end of this month and subject to review.

EEC foreign ministers meeting in Brussels today will try again to achieve a fully coordinated and unanimous position.

The EEC Commission proposed a ban last Tuesday on imports of fruit and vegetables, milk, fresh meat, animals for slaughter, game and freshwater fish from six Soviet bloc countries within a 25-mile radius of Kiev. EEC diplomats acting on behalf of the Council of Ministers later added other products, and Yugoslavia was added to the list of countries.

By the end of the week, however, the Twelve remained at odds over how to carry out the proposal. The Commission imposed a ban on fresh meat without approval of the Council of Ministers, arguing that if the EEC delayed too long the measures would be ineffective.

At the weekend the Dutch sought a consensus among member states, and on Saturday evening announced prematurely that full agreement had been reached. Italy, however, declared its dissent.

By Stewart Tindler, Crime Reporter

A "supergrass" is to be released from an Ulster prison after two years of a 14-year sentence, despite being called a liar by a judge after the acquittal of 20 people last year.

Yesterday the Northern Ireland office confirmed that Mr Tom King, the Secretary of State, had recommended the exercise of royal prerogative to remit part of William "Budgie" Allen's sentence.

Allen, a "loyalist", was given 14 years for attempted murder in April 1984 and could not have been expected to be released for

Meltdown danger averted — official

From Christopher Walker, Moscow

More than two weeks after the disaster at Chernobyl, the Soviet authorities asserted last night that the danger of a catastrophic meltdown or second nuclear explosion had finally been averted after a day which marked a turning-point in the hazardous operation to clean up the plant.

In a statement released by Tass, Mr Yevgeny Velikhov, the scientist in charge of the operation in the Ukraine, said: "Theoretically, until today, there existed the possibility of a catastrophe because a large amount of fuel and reactor graphite remained in an overheated condition. Now that possibility is no more."

It was the first public admission here that the accident posed, even the theoretical danger of a meltdown, which had been causing increasing concern to nuclear experts in the West, alerted by the Soviet decision to start pouring large quantities of concrete into the floor of the damaged building.

Mr Velikhov's announcement gave no clear indication just how close the Chernobyl disaster came to creating the so-called "China Syndrome" in which the molten reactor would have sunk into the Earth's crust, threatening a second explosion and the possibility of contamination on an horrific scale.

It was the first admission from the Kremlin that such a nightmarish possibility had existed. The first clues came last week when Mr Velikhov announced that work was going on under the damaged number four reactor and Soviet experts began putting out feelers in the West about means of averting such a catastrophe.

Western diplomatic sources greeted last night's announcement with relief. It was given credence because it followed a press conference last Friday at which experts from the Inter-

national Atomic Energy Agency had already discounted the danger of a meltdown as no longer a real, as opposed to a theoretical, danger.

Their views were based on temperatures they had been informed existed in the reactor and observations from a helicopter flight close above above it.

Had the feared meltdown occurred, experts believe that it would have threatened the future of Kiev, the third largest Soviet city with a population over two million, and destroyed the agricultural potential of most of the western Ukraine, Russia's breadbasket.

Mr Velikhov's statement did not make it clear whether the leak of radiation had finally halted, but said that the clean-up operation was now entering a new phase with experiments and measurements to identify the most contaminated areas.

He added that builders working in "difficult conditions of high radioactivity" were freeing the soil around the stricken reactor and pouring on concrete with the aim of "burying it."

"Work is being conducted to de-activate and encapsulate radio-active substances, which guarantees against them getting into ground waters," he said.

Mr Velikhov's statement, which contrasted strongly with the terse official announcements from the Council of Ministers, which were all that were permitted at the beginning of the crisis, contained a pledge that "within a definite period" to be governed by safety norms, the Chernobyl plant would be back in operation.

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Syrians tell UK envoys to go in tit-for-tat move

By Nicholas Ashford, Diplomatic Correspondent

Syria yesterday expelled three British diplomats from Damascus in retaliation for Britain's decision to order three Syrian diplomats to leave this country by the end of the week for alleged involvement in a recent series of terrorist incidents.

As the tit-for-tat expulsions were being announced by Damascus, it was learnt that Scotland Yard was investigating possible links between other Arab embassies in London and terrorist organizations.

The activities of Arab diplomats, particularly those from radical states which support Palestinian extremist organizations, have been under scrutiny since last month's attempt to plant a bomb on an El Al airliner at Heathrow airport.

However, a British official said yesterday that he was not aware of any plans to take action against any other Arab diplomat.

A Foreign Office spokesman said Syria's decision to expel three of the nine diplomats attached to the British Embassy in Damascus was "quite unjustified."

"We are not in the tit-for-tat game. We have expelled Syrians because they were allegedly involved in terrorist activities. That, as far as we are concerned, is the end of the story."

The three Britons are Colonel David Maitland-Titterton, the Defence Attaché, Mr David Taylor, First Secretary, and Mr Andrew Balfour, the Vice-Consul.

The British Foreign Office decided to expel the three Syrians after the Syrian Ambassador refused to waive diplomatic immunity so that they could be questioned by Scotland Yard in connection with the El Al incident.

Whitehall sources said the men were suspected of being involved in other terrorist activities in addition to the Heathrow incident. "They

were up to their necks in it," one official said.

The three diplomats being expelled were named as Mr Zaki Oud, Mr Ahmad Abdul Latif and Mr Mounir Mouna. All were described as attachés in the Diplomatic List. All had arrived in London within the past year.

Mr Loutof Allah Haydar, the Syrian Ambassador, was called to the Foreign Office 10 days ago and asked by Sir Anthony Acland, the Permanent Under-Secretary, to waive the diplomats' immunity so they could be questioned.

He returned on Monday and said Damascus had refused the request. However, he offered to "co-operate" by allowing the men to be questioned in the Syrian Embassy in the presence of a Syrian official. The police refused to accept this condition because evidence taken in such circumstances could not be used in court.

A Jordanian, Mr Nezar Hindawi, is being held on charges of attempted murder and trying to destroy an airliner.

Contacts between London and Damascus took place throughout last week in an attempt to get the government of President Assad to change its mind.

Mr Haydar insisted, throughout this diplomatic tug-of-war, that the three men were innocent.

He blamed the police investigations on American and Israeli attempts to mount a new propaganda campaign against Syria in the wake of last week's anti-terrorist statement at the Tokyo summit.

The names of the three men will be circulated to other EEC states, the US, Canada and Japan.

● DAMASCUS: Britain's decision to expel the three Syrians was part of an orchestrated campaign by the US against the Arab world, the Syrian government daily *Tishrin* said (AFP reports).

Merseyside fans restore prestige

From Peter Davenport, Liverpool

The City of Liverpool welcomed home its two football teams yesterday amidst agreement that Merseyside itself had been the real winner in the FA Cup Final.

Saturday's final, the first between rivals and neighbours Liverpool and Everton, had been seen as the opportunity for spectators to redeem the sporting reputation shattered by the tragedy at the Heysel

stadium in Brussels just a year ago. Mr Ted Croker, secretary of the Football Association, had gone so far as to tell *The Times* that the final was one of the most critical games in the history of English football. More than 200 million people around the world watched on television, but their attention was as much on the activity on

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● Mrs Barbara Delamere of New Malden, Surrey (above) was one of two winners in *The Times* Portfolio Gold weekly competition. She shares £16,000 with Miss J Parish of New Eltham, London, double the usual amount because no one won the previous week. Nine readers shared the daily prize. Details, page 3

● Portfolio Gold list, page 20; rules and how to play, information service, page 16

Tomorrow

The next volcano

Six months after a volcano buried an entire town in mud, Colombians are facing a new threat — civil war

Rampant Ivy League

Suzi Menkes reports from the American collections

Bill for M25

£500 million will need to be spent on the M25 in the next 10 years to cope with serious overcrowding

NHS spending

London's hospitals are under mounting pressure as health service spending is transferred out of the capital to "poorer" parts of the NHS

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Norway devalues by 12 %

From Tony Samstag, Oslo

Norway's new Labour government, which took power on Friday, yesterday announced an immediate devaluation of the Norwegian krone by 12 per cent.

Mr Gro Harlem Brundtland, the Prime Minister, said the economy was out of control and the collapse in oil prices had caused foreign exchange reserves to fall by nearly £5 billion since last year.

The Norwegian krone has fluctuated wildly on international exchange markets during the past weeks, since the collapse of the previous Conservative coalition government began to look inevitable. It has required government intervention at times.

The Prime Minister's announcement followed a day of crisis meetings with Mr Gunnar Berge, the Finance Minister, and Mr Hermod Skanland, the Governor of the Central Bank.

The devaluation, which could only have been taken after consultation with Norway's Scandinavian trading partners, prompted immediate comparisons with the 16 per cent devaluation of the Swedish krone in 1982 when Mrs Brundtland's friend, the late Mr Olof Palme, took over as Social Democratic Prime Minister there.

With all oil transactions calculated in US dollars the Norwegian devaluation will have no immediate effect on prices now being paid on the world market for Norway's and Britain's North Sea oil (David Young writes).

But the lower operating costs for the foreign oil companies investing in Norway's oil industry will help them continue their programmes.

The devaluation will also be interpreted by the 13 members of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries as confirmation of their view that Norway and Britain should have helped them limit oil output to keep world oil prices near the \$30 a barrel mark and protected Norwegian oil revenues.

Fraud trial jury plan is rejected

By Richard Evans, Lobby Reporter

The Government is expected to reject controversial plans to scrap jury trials in complex fraud cases, but is working on strengthening the machinery for detecting and investigating serious fraud.

The issue is still to be discussed by the Cabinet, but senior Home Office ministers and the law officers are convinced that a ban on juries in selected cases, as recommended in the Roskill report earlier this year, would not only stir up controversy but also be unnecessary.

Instead, ministers are expected to favour Lord Roskill's proposals for simplifying the procedures for bringing fraud cases to trial, with emphasis on pre-trial review.

The final proposals will almost certainly be included in a proposed Criminal Justice Bill.

A ministerial working party is examining the possibility of creating a unified body to investigate fraud.

Mr John MacGregor, Chief Secretary to the Treasury, with Sir Patrick Mayhew, Solicitor General, Mr David Mellor, a junior Home Office minister, and Mr Michael Howard, a junior minister at the Department of Trade and Industry, are looking at building on the concept of the Fraud Investigation Group which is used by the Director of Public Prosecutions for complicated frauds.

Ministers want to introduce extra fraud experts, such as Department of Trade and Industry Inspectors and Inland Revenue officials, to help to identify and bring more fraud cases to trial.

Lord Roskill's committee suggested that certain complicated fraud cases should be tried by a tribunal made up of a judge sitting with two qualified lay members.

But ministers believe that, given the planned changes in pre-trial arrangements, a jury will remain the best test of whether a defendant has been dishonest.

Wasted talent as industry loses vital graduates

By Bill Johnstone, Technology Correspondent

Thousands of children may be misdirected at an early age in their choice of career because of poor resources and the influence of teachers who have little experience of industry. The result is a chronic waste of Britain's talent.

These conclusions have surfaced at the RBC, embarrassed by 8,000 applications for 24 places to retrain arts graduates as electronics experts. According to recruiting consultants hired to help to process the avalanche, the

wasted talent among the young people — more than 90 per cent aged under 22 — is on a terrible scale.

All have good degrees and would have been more than capable of becoming a high technology expert, of which Britain is desperately short.

Several reports from government industrial advisers in the past two years have highlighted such skill shortages and called for more resources. However, the RBC experience seems to show resources are being misused. These advisers believe

Britain's approach to education is irrelevant and inefficient. Both Acland (Advisory Council for Applied Research and Development) and the Information Technology Advisory Panel (Itap), which counsel the Cabinet Office, have in the past few weeks called for a high level inquiry into educational needs.

Britain lags badly behind its principal industrial competitors. The skills shortage has become a political issue and both the Labour Party and the SDP/Liberal Alliance have published solutions, both call-

ing for the injection of more cash into education and training.

Engineering graduates form about 13 per cent of the total produced each year — well behind the USA and Japan. Figures published about 18 months ago by the Manpower Services Commission's

Competence and Competition, showed Britain's poor performance in producing first degree engineering graduates. It revealed that Japan had 74,000 such graduates, repre-

sented 630 for every million of the population, the United States had 80,000, representing 350 for every million, and the United Kingdom, 15,000, only 270 for every million.

Since the report was published, new places have been created at higher educational establishments in an attempt to switch resources from the arts to the sciences but industry and academia are still dissatisfied.

The BBC experience may show that the problems are more deep rooted than was thought.

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King seeks US help for tough crackdown against IRA terrorism

Mr Tom King, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, flew to Washington yesterday to try to persuade United States Congressmen to back Britain in a crackdown against the IRA.

Mr King wants to make sure that legislation before the Senate to ease extradition involving IRA men is passed in spite of a strong pro-Irish lobby. He will be emphasizing Britain's support for the US over Libya to help his case.

He said at Heathrow Airport before leaving for three days of meetings that he would be talking to people in positions of influence, both in the Administration and the Senate and House of Representatives.

He added: "The summit in Tokyo emphasized the importance of ensuring terrorists couldn't escape punishment for their crimes merely by skipping over a border and escaping out of a particular country."

This is an important aspect that is understood very clearly by the President and the Administration. There is legislation before the Senate at the moment and this is obviously something that is of great interest to us."

Mr King said that he believed the relationship between the US and Britain, and particularly between President Reagan and Mrs Thatcher, was "very close indeed."

He added: "I recently drew attention to the amount of support that Libya has given over the years to the IRA and to the threat that poses — not just to Northern Ireland but to the republic as well."

Mr King said that the American attitude to the IRA was changing and that the Anglo-Irish agreement had helped to bring about that change.

He said: "The attitude of the Irish government in showing their utter rejection of the IRA and violence in that form is important in helping to get Americans to understand."

An international petition demanding the release of two convicted IRA terrorists fighting extradition proceedings in The Netherlands will be presented to the Dutch Justice Minister this week.

The move will come as the climax to a four-day campaign of films, exhibitions and speeches about Ireland and the turmoil in Ulster which is to be addressed by the civil rights campaigner, Miss Ber-

nadette Devlin, the former GLC leader, Mr Ken Livingstone, and the West Belfast MP and Sinn Féin president, Mr Gerry Adams.

The two convicted men, Gerard Kelly and Brendan McFarlane, are Maze prison escapees who were recaptured in Amsterdam.

A Dutch judge has ruled that Kelly should be freed because his original offences of bombing the Central Criminal Court and Scotland Yard were political crimes.

The Minister of Justice will decide whether to follow the judge's decision. The final verdict is expected in mid-July.

The court has said that McFarlane, who was sent to the Maze for bombing a bar in Belfast, should be extradited because he had failed to prove that the crime was politically motivated. An appeal is pending.

The petition demanding their release has been signed by European lawyers and legal experts and will be presented to the press next Friday by a representative of the French organization Juristes pour l'Irlande.

Why the dog's life is worse in Ulster

By Richard Ford

As in many other areas of life, Northern Ireland remains a place apart from the rest of the Great Britain over the issue of dog licences.

While on the mainland dog owners need only pay 37p for a licence since 1983, it has cost £5 in the province.

New legislation for Northern Ireland was introduced almost three years ago in the face of growing pressure from the large and vociferous farming community, who were alarmed at sheep worrying. Local councillors were also worried about the fouling of pavements and concerned at the number of road traffic accidents caused by stray dogs.

The legislation also made it a statutory obligation for the province's 26 district councils to employ dog wardens with responsibility for dealing with strays.

There are three wardens in Belfast but government officials and members of the Ulster Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals admit that because of the scale of both the problem and the districts involved, their effectiveness is limited.

Raising the cost of a licence has not deterred dog owners and licences have doubled from around 36,000 at the old price to 72,000 in 1985.



The Rev David Elliot gets some help from Mr Panch as he reads the lesson at St Paul's, Covent Garden, yesterday during a puppet festival. (Photograph: Dod Miller)

Alliance plan for reform of advice to ministers

By Colin Hughes, Whitehall Correspondent

Plans for reform of relations between top Whitehall officials and ministers will be published as part of a joint Liberal-SDP policy statement, due in six weeks.

The Alliance has moved from a long period of merely airing ideas on a new government policy-making strategy to specific proposals on the words of one adviser, "beefing up" the private offices of ministers.

The move coincides with a conference being held today by Sir John Hoskyns, the former head of Mrs Thatcher's "think tank", as the Institute of Directors. It will discuss proposals by Sir John on spending £7 million to "re-skill government" by introducing teams of up to 10 politically-motivated specialists in every minister's private office.

Dr David Owen and Mr David Steel are being persuaded by prospective candidates and Alliance local government members that the proposal details need to be prepared well in advance. Pressure is likely to mount after the West Derbyshire and Ryedale by-election results, which have boosted Alliance hopes of gaining at least the balance of power at the next general election.

Alliance advisers argue that questions about the relative powers of the prime minister and cabinet secretary over other ministers and permanent secretaries, and the lack of backbench input in day-to-day policy, would become particularly urgent in a pact or coalition government.

The Alliance approach would stop short of a full-blown ministerial cabinet system on the French model, for fear of intimidating the career Civil Service, but would be expected to link in with plans

to improve select committee scrutiny of government, and give backbench and opposition MPs more influence in the executive branch of policy-making. This may include proposals for a small "opposition department" of paid staff.

Mr Steel and Dr Owen have agreed to start drawing up a set of expert sympathizers, including economists and academics, who could act as the "brains" behind Alliance policies. At present, the Government has 22 special advisers appointed as Civil Servants on contract, most in ministers' private offices and some in the Downing Street policy unit.

The Alliance plan would significantly increase their role and numbers, and give ministerial teams of officials as much clout on global policy as the Downing Street unit at present gives the Prime Minister. They would, however, sit alongside existing private secretaries and other career Civil Service advisers.

Equally, the Alliance believes that the Cabinet Office has become too much of a "prime minister's department", and wants to spread access to policy information across the board.

For example, the plan will lay down proposed rules on the circulation of policy advice papers, and advocate means of ensuring that the appointment of a cabinet secretary is more explicitly non-political.

A substantial section of the 20,000-word policy statement will cover Whitehall-Westminster relations, including the organization of education, training and employment, which at present covers employment, education and science and the Manpower Services Commission.

Hopes rising for peace in schools

By Michael McCarthy

Two steps towards a final settlement of the long-running teachers' pay dispute and its disruption of school life are due to be taken this week.

First, the executive of the largest teachers' union, the National Union of Teachers, meets today to ratify the decision reached during Friday's meeting of the Burnham committee to call off industrial action in return for an interim 1986 pay award of 5.5 per cent, or about £10 a week.

Secondly, the NUT will then join the other five teaching unions in a comprehensive series of talks about future pay and conditions now going on under the auspices of Acas.

If agreements do emerge from the talks, which cover grievances behind the dispute from salary structure to "voluntary" duties such as supervision and covering for absent colleagues, and if the Government is eventually prepared to provide the necessary finance, then an end will be in sight to the struggle which has gone on for 15 months.

The talks are expected to last for several weeks.

The NUT, the most militant union, which represents nearly half the 410,000 state school teachers in England and Wales, had been excluded from the Acas discussions for refusing to call off action after the 1985 pay deal, worth

8.5 per cent, was reached in February. It had planned a further series of strikes in schools from this week.

Behind the union's decision to return to the negotiating table was the realization that it was being excluded from policy decisions likely to affect the teaching profession for perhaps the next 20 years.

Both the employers — the local authorities — and the teachers' organizations are freshly optimistic about the outcome of the talks after Friday's Burnham committee deal.

The NUT, in agreeing to suspend its industrial action, joined with the other five unions in giving a pledge of "a return to peace and calm in the schools."

The executive of the union may well decide at today's meeting to rescind its instruction to its members to "withdraw goodwill."

The immediate threat of further strikes is over, however, as ratification of Friday's deal by the NUT executive is considered a formality.

The teachers' long-term aim is a return to the pay parities with other professions first recognized by the Houghton report in the mid-seventies, and it was calculated at the start of their campaign last year that an increase of 34 per cent would be necessary to achieve that.

Education in decline, Tory says

Lord Young of Graftonham, Secretary of State for Employment, admitted in a television interview yesterday that educational standards were falling and must be raised as a matter of urgency.

He was appearing on *The Channel 4 Inquiry*, a 90-minute investigation on how appropriate our education and training is to industry, which was shown last night.

On the question of raising school standards he said: "We cannot afford to soldier on as we are. I get young people coming into the Youth Training Scheme for whom school is an optional extra. YTS is too much about remedial education and that's the problem. We've got to motivate and work young people harder in the school system."

The programme had conducted a poll on education and training in which chairmen and chief executives from Britain's top 1,000 companies gave an overwhelming vote of no confidence in the performance of schools, and said that they were unimpressed by the new two-year YTS.

Lord Young said: "There must be a way in which we can reach out into the school system itself, into the local education authorities and say: 'Come on, let's stop talking about inputs: how much money we put into the system. Let's for once start talking about outputs: what we get out of it.'"

East Coast under threat: 1 Lives at risk from erosion

Eastern England is slowly "sinking" while tide levels in the North Sea are rising progressively, posing an ever greater risk of serious flooding. The construction of the Thames barrier was a response to the danger threatening London, but the Anglian Water Authority, which is responsible for the entire

coastline between the Thames and the Humber, is concerned that government cuts in expenditure on sea defences are jeopardizing lives and property. In the first of two articles, John Young, Agriculture Correspondent, describes two alarming incidents.

On January 31 this year Mr Mike Wakelin, operations manager for the Lincoln division of Anglian Water, was alerted to the fact that a section of the promenade south of the seaside town of Mablethorpe had collapsed. Although it was a Friday afternoon, he was able to mobilize a team of engineers to work during the weekend.

They discovered that the sea had scoured its way under the sea wall which supports the promenade, and excavated a hole 100 feet long, 30 feet wide and seven feet deep. Mr Wakelin reckons that without emergency repairs the wall would have been breached by the Monday.

The potentially disastrous effects can be seen by standing on the wall and looking inland at the roofs of houses, bungalows and caravans beneath. Mablethorpe, like all the main coastal towns of Lincolnshire, including Boston and Skegness, is below sea level, and the consequences of allowing the muddy waters of

the North Sea to pour uncontrollably through a gap in the wall hardly bear thinking about.

By an ironic coincidence January 31 was the anniversary of the catastrophic floods which inundated eastern England in 1953, sweeping away the dunes which had hitherto afforded a natural barrier, and necessitating the building of most of the present concrete walls. But since then the tides running north to south along the coast have swept away the beaches to the point where, as in the Mablethorpe incident, the sea is able to penetrate beneath the foundations and wash away the infill.

Mr Wakelin estimates that some £4 million needs to be spent urgently to repair defences, which have less than a year's useful life. But the region's total capital spending allocation for this year is only £2,600,000, the greater part of which is being spent on an inland protection scheme for Lincoln, scheduled to cost £9 million eventually.

"I only wish we could get as worked up about sea defences as we are about radioactive rain, because the situation is a sight more dangerous."

So far all appeals to the Ministry of Agriculture for emergency grant aid have fallen on deaf ears. "The ministry says it is giving it urgent consideration, but that was three months ago."

A hundred miles or so south-east, Jaywick, near Clacton-on-sea, Essex, faces a similar threat. On Good Friday Mr Terry Wilby, principal operations engineer in Anglian's Colchester division, was informed that part of the sea wall facing had been washed away.

In spite of it being a holiday weekend, he found a firm able and willing to supply hundreds of tons of ready-mixed concrete to avert the danger. This year some £3.5 million is being spent on extending the sea walls at Jaywick.

Tomorrow: The disappearing marshes

Left-wing challenge to Clive Jenkins fails

A challenge to the election of Mr Clive Jenkins, leader of the white-collar union, ASTMS, to the TUC's general council was ruled out of order at the union's annual conference in Bournemouth yesterday.

Mr Jenkins, who has sat on the general council for 12 years, defeated a left-wing opponent, Mr Ian Gibson, after winning 43,000 votes to Mr Gibson's 17,000.

The challenge yesterday came in the form of an emergency motion by the union's number two divisional council, standing orders committee — which runs the meeting — to have been correctly submitted.

The motion argued that the decision of the union's executive to elect the ASTMS/TUC General council representative was "unacceptable."

According to the number two divisional council, the decision was a flagrant contradiction of rule 24 (16). It insisted that the representatives be elected at the annual conference, as provided for by that rule.

Mr Douglas Hoyle, Labour MP for Warrington North, and the union's president, ruled the motion out of order. He told delegates that he had taken legal advice: "The election was carried out in accordance with law after three legal opinions."

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The election was carried out with two candidates and more than 60,000 of our members participated, which is 10 times more than in our previous election."

"It would also be unlawful and if challenged in the courts it could result in our not having our nominated member on the TUC general council."

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Defence depot sale 'threat to 34,000 jobs'

Thousands of jobs in the Civil Service would be lost if the Government went ahead with plans to privatize defence establishments, Ministry of Defence staff meeting in Brighton were warned yesterday.

Mr Brian Sturtevant, secretary of the ministry section of the Civil and Public Services Association, told the meeting that 34,000 jobs could go.

He said that level of job losses, 20 per cent off 70,000 jobs in the ministry, would lead to enormous decline in 143 towns and rural areas.

"Because the dozens of private companies anxious to snap up defence work will try to boost profits by cutting staff and cutting corners, we envisage that 34,000 jobs will disappear," he said.

The dispute began last January when 12 people on a Maccap scheme in Leeds sponsored by the Manpower Services Commission (MSC) said they intended to form their own branch of the National Union of Public Employees (Nupel).

Maccap opposed the plan. The charity's general manager, Mr Gilbert Harrison,

Flaw in the Thames barrier

An outdated electro-mechanical control system which operates the £467 million Thames barrier will have to be replaced because of frequent breakdowns.

The Thames Water Authority said yesterday that the control system did not put London at risk in the event of a flood or tidal surge.

"We are looking at replacing the system, but it is an immensely complex engineering task. It is not a risk and the

situation is under control," a spokesman said.

The authority took charge of the flood barrier five weeks ago, when the Greater London Council was abolished. Extra staff have had to be on duty every time the barrier is operated to deal with possible breakdowns.

The system failed during the official opening in 1984 when a gate stopped moving for several minutes. One relay failed when the barrier was last used, on Boxing Day 1985.

Two years ago a confidential report by British Brown Boveri, the contractors, said that the failures were caused by contacts in the relays not functioning properly. The company recommended that the barrier should be replaced with a computerized control system costing between £500,000 and £2 million.

The existing control system, using electro-mechanical relays, was installed because of the 20-year gap between conception and completion.

Union dispute at Maccap

An attempt to unionize the workforce of a charity for the mentally handicapped has touched off a dispute that threatens to put 834 people out of work and severely curtail services for 4,000 handicapped people in England and Wales.

The dispute began last January when 12 people on a Maccap scheme in Leeds sponsored by the Manpower Services Commission (MSC) said they intended to form their own branch of the National Union of Public Employees (Nupel).

Maccap opposed the plan. The charity's general manager, Mr Gilbert Harrison,

said: "Handicapped people have little notion of clock-watching and our employees are often called on to work outside normal hours."

Nupel is still demanding to be formally recognized by Maccap. If the union uses its right of veto the scheme will be cancelled and 78 MSC trainees will be out of work.

The Croquet Association, formed in 1906, hopes that the television exposure will lead to an increase in interest. There are already some 4,000 players in the 130 clubs in the association, and as Mr Chris Hudson, its national development officer, pointed out, it is at least a sport where Britain leads, winning the world championship in Australia four years ago.

The title is about to be fought over again when teams from Australia and New Zealand arrive in Britain next month for a series of nine test matches.

Mr Hudson said: "I don't think it will ever be as popular as snooker on television, but I would expect the coverage to help croquet expand quite considerably."

Television hopes for hit with croquet

By Peter Davenport

It may not have the crunching impact of American football, the hypnotic appeal of snooker or the bar room familiarity of darts, but croquet has become the latest sport to attract the television cameras.

For three days Granada Television in Manchester has been featuring three live sessions a day plus evening edited highlights, a total of eight hours of air time, of the seemingly gentle sport of hoops and mallets.

It is the first time a croquet tournament has been televised and Granada executives hope they can make it as popular as snooker and darts that sometimes seem to dominate the screen.

The tournament, involving 12 invited top players from England, Ireland, Scotland and Wales has been sponsored by the Royal Bank of Scotland

and organized in conjunction with the Croquet Association. It is hoped it will become a regular television event.

The first prize however was only £150 plus a solid silver cup, a sum far removed from the £70,000 that snooker's new world champion, Joe Johnson from Bradford, picked up earlier last week.

The contest had been played out on a manicured lawn surrounded by elegant blue and white striped marquees. However, the setting was not quite so idyllic as the small screen portrayed.

It was not set within the rolling acres of some country mansion, but was specially created next to the television studios' car park just a few yards from the set of *Coronation Street* in the heart of Manchester.

A spokesman for Granada

expressed optimism about the future of the latest, unlikely, sport to be adopted by television. "It is experimental at this stage but we would hope it could be as popular as darts or snooker."

"We are hoping it will show people that croquet is not just a game played by bishops and crusty old colonels on the vicarage lawn, but something that is very competitive, very skillful and at times tactically quite ruthless. It is a sport with its own personalities too."

One of the commentators was the former Grand National jockey, Lord Trevellick and Oaksey, himself a keen player.

But to emphasize the broad appeal of the game, Granada said that players included a bricklayer, taxi driver, and a farmer. The winner was Mr Nigel Aspinall, aged 39, a computer programmer and the

world-ranked number one player.

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The title is about to be fought over again when teams from Australia and New Zealand arrive in Britain next month for a series of nine test matches.

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Biffen seeks policy to offset Thatcherism

Continued from page 1

Mr Tebbit, who will today start an official inquiry into last week's dismal election results, will address the Conservative backbench 1922 Committee on Thursday.

The invitation was issued last week before the elections took place and it was being emphasized by senior Conservatives last night that the meeting will in no sense be the prelude to a witchhunt but rather an opportunity for the party to take stock and see where it was going.

Nevertheless, there is no hiding the concern felt by some Conservatives at Mr Tebbit's performance. One senior minister said last night judgement on his performance would remain suspended for the time being.

Mr Tebbit, asked yesterday about his future as party chairman, said: "If the Prime Minister or the Chief Whip said to me that they wanted me to go, why ever not? But I do not think that is going to arise. I will stay so long as I can do a useful job."

About his style, he said: "I do not think it raucous to insist on setting out in front of the electorate what other

parties' policies are even if they choose to conceal them or indeed have two or three policies which they advocate in different parts of the country."

Meanwhile Mr Malcolm Rifkind, Secretary of State for Scotland, issued a warning that it would be "facile" to assume the Conservative Party would automatically regain the ground lost at Thursday's elections in time for the next general election.

"What we have got to do, from the Prime Minister downwards, is to listen to those who voted for us at the last general election and who are not voting for us now."

RYEDALE

Elizabeth Shields (Lab) 27,872
Neil Bidder (C) 22,672
Stanley Haines (Lab) 4,653

Lab/All majority 4,480
Total vote 54,977 Turnout 67%

1983: J. Spence (C) 33,912; Mrs E. Shields (Lab) 17,170; P. Bloom (Lab) 5,818
1979: C. Major (C) 16,142 (28.7%)

A late local government election result announced on Saturday is:
Lab gained 15 from C in 1983
Lab gained 15 from C in 1983

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YOU GET

THE TIMES

£500m needed to stop long traffic queues on still-unfinished M25

By Michael Bailey, Transport Editor

The Government faces bills of up to £500 million during the next 10 years to cope with serious overcrowding already evident on the M25 motorway even before it is finished.

Traffic on the £1,000 million London orbital road has so far exceeded ministry forecasts that on the busiest stretches it is running at up to 115,000 vehicles a day compared with an expected 75,000.

This is causing daily queues several miles long, and compares with an average of 40,000 vehicles on Britain's six-lane motorways, and a design maximum of about 85,000.

The M25 is a six-lane motorway throughout its 120-mile length, except for a short stretch near Heathrow where there are eight lanes, and through the Dartford tunnel where there are four.

This has already been shown to be a serious underestimate, and substantial widening is essential unless the motorway is to become a massive bottleneck at peak times, driving traffic back on to the surrounding local roads it was intended to relieve, experts say.

Extra lanes are needed round the west and north-east sides, at a probable cost of £420 million in 1986 terms; £520 million in 1993 values.

The most urgent needs are: Staines to Wisley; The busiest

stretch of the entire motorway where extra lanes are needed to cope with existing congestion.

Fortunately, space for extra lanes has already been built into part of the section (unlike most of the M25) so the cost is estimated at a modest £9 million, plus £5 million to upgrade the inadequate M3/M25 interchange.

Dartford tunnel: Traffic has already reached 85,000 vehicles a day compared with a forecast of 60,000, and the queues are expected to be larger than last summer as traffic heads for the channel ports.

Tenders have already been sought for new tunnel or bridge that would add four more lanes at a cost of about £150 million.

A1 to M4: The key A1 to Watford section is the last part of the M25 to be built, and overcrowding is expected from the day it opens this autumn.

Traffic feeding into it from the A1 and M1 motorways, spurred on by congestion at the Dartford tunnel, will produce a further traffic surge on the already heavily-used western side of the motorway. Two more lanes down to Heathrow and the M4 would cost about £130 million.

Leatherhead-Reigate: Problems with this 7½-mile stretch delayed its opening last sum-

mer, and complaints since about the quality of its surface make eventual re-surfacing inevitable. The cost will be £15 million.

M11-M20: If the Channel tunnel goes ahead with the M20 as its main route to London, extra lanes will be needed to cope with traffic growth in the 1990s down the east side of the M25 from the M11 Cambridge motorway to the M20 south of the Thames. Estimated cost £115 million.

Ministers have consistently denied the need for widening while the M25 was being built, and Mr Nicholas Ridley, Secretary of State for Transport, said earlier this year that an assessment must await until after its first full year as a completed motorway.

But he acknowledged that ministry forecasts had seriously underestimated traffic flows, and has already bowed to pressure for relief of the worst bottleneck at Dartford, where new lanes are expected in about 1992.

The urgency of the need was amply demonstrated during a two-hour survey of the busy south-west section with an M25 traffic officer, Sergeant Andy Smith, of Surrey Police, one day last week.

Between 7.30 and 9.30 in the morning peak time on Thursday queues extended several miles on the M25 and the M3 feeding into it.

According to Sgt Smith, the problem is exacerbated by many drivers not used to motorways and who use the M25 as a local road (which indeed for them it is).

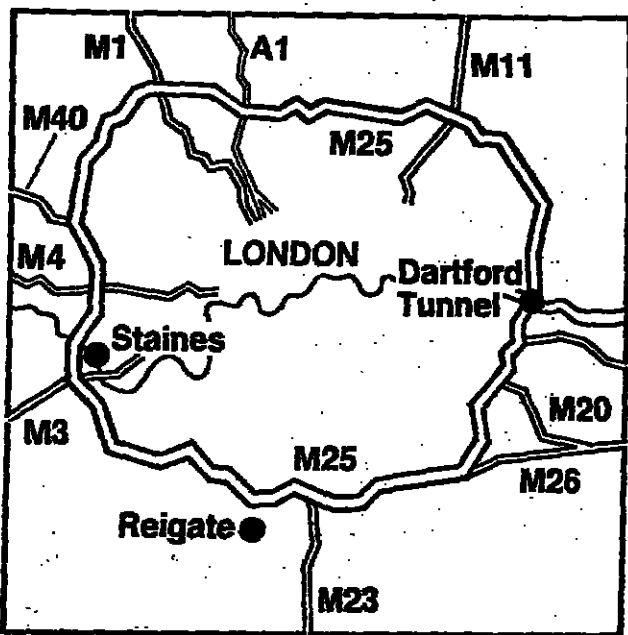
There were many examples of cars being driven too close to the vehicle in front, and weaving from one lane to another, resulting on average in an accident each day.

Most are not serious because of the density and slow speed of the traffic.

"I dread to think what would happen if we had to close our section of the motorway," Sgt Smith said.

"There are no alternative routes. We've been getting 115,000 vehicles a day at the peak, and it wasn't supposed to reach that till the 1990s."

"It's like this every day now. What's it going to be like in 15 years' time?"



TUC calls for equal retirement at 60

The TUC calls today for a state retirement age of 60 for men and women with no loss of pension.

It also calls for a coherent programme of measures leading to an overall reduction in retirement ages.

The TUC's views are published in its response to the government consultation paper, *Sex Discrimination and Retirement Age*.

Mr Norman Willis, TUC general secretary, says: "The Government are doing no more than the absolute minimum required to comply with the European Court. They have not faced up to the real issues of better pensions and an end to discrimination in pension schemes."

The TUC says that women may have to work longer to achieve the same level of benefit.

The Government's moves to give women the right to continue working until the same age as men came after the successful action taken by a Hampshire woman in the European Court.



A triumphant Liz Hobbs, who yesterday won the women's event in the British Water Ski championships at Weymouth, Dorset, on her return after an 80 mph spill in 1984 in which she suffered serious neck and chest injuries (Photograph: Tim Bishop).

Kidney transplant study is launched

By Nicholas Timmins, Social Services Correspondent

A detailed study to establish why kidneys for transplant are not collected from potential donors, and precisely how many organs should be available in a year for transplantation, is being launched by Britain's transplant co-ordinators.

The last study, in 1979, estimated that 4,000 patients a year suffered brain death in intensive care units, which, in theory, should mean a potential 8,000 kidneys would be available annually for transplantation, if relatives agreed to them being donated. But kidney transplants are running at only 1,500 a year.

A pilot study involving about a dozen intensive care units is to be run by Mrs Celia Wight, the transplant co-ordinator at Addenbrooke's Hospital in Cambridge.

Doctors, nurses and others will be asked why patients are not referred for transplantation, and Mrs Wight is hoping

Computer link in car video

The first rear seat television and video unit for cars in Britain is to be launched this week.

The 4½-inch square colour television unit, mounted between the front seats or on a moveable stand, can be used to pick up normal television transmissions, or linked to the video recorder.

The unit will also be connected to a quadrophonic sound system, enabling people in the front seat to listen to music while passengers in the rear watch the television with headphones.

The video system, manufactured by Blaupunkt and expected to sell for about £1,500, is the first stage in a series of developments linking the video to a computer network.

Businessmen will soon be able to receive information on the car telephone which can be transmitted to an in-car computer and displayed on the screen.

Pubs 'better than hotels'

There is a superior and cheaper alternative to the "cold, impersonal rabbit hutch" of modern hotel chains, according to a new guide published today.

The Campaign for Real Ale says in its book *Beer, Bed and Breakfast*, that it is "one of Britain's best kept secrets" that hundreds of public houses offer excellent traditional accommodation and food.

Coastal group comes of age

Enterprise Neptune, the National Trust's appeal to save Britain's unspoiled coastline, celebrates its twenty-first anniversary this week, having raised almost £8.5 million and with 465 miles of coastline under its protection.

Up television

Television cameras could replace conventional periscopes on future British submarines if current tests prove successful. Cameras would be above the surface for less time, reducing risk of detection.

Portfolio Gold

Two women each won £8,000 in Saturday's weekly Portfolio Gold. The total was £16,000 because the weekly prize had not been won the previous Saturday.

"My win couldn't have come at a better time. It is certainly a welcome boost as I am unemployed at the moment," Miss Jacqui Parish, of New Eltham, south-east London, said. She has been playing the game since it started two years ago.

Winning was a special thrill for Mrs Barbara Delamare, of New Malden, Surrey, as she normally does not play the game.

"I usually play Portfolio," her husband, Gerald, a racing adviser and freelance writer, explained.

"But I had to go to the races on Saturday so Barbara completed the game. It was her lucky Mistic touch."

He plans to buy his wife a new car to celebrate her passing her driver's test a few weeks ago.

Nine winners each won £1,777.77 in the daily Portfolio Gold last Saturday, which totalled £16,000.

The prize, normally £4,000, increased to £16,000 last week as there were no winners on Wednesday, Thursday or Friday.

One of the winners, Mrs Gillian Epstein, of Finchley, north London, was very thrilled because her son, Ben, aged eight, had completed the game.

"We all think it was Ben's special luck," she said. Mr John Howarth, a prison officer of Farsley, near Leeds, said he will use the prize money to pay for a family trip to Washington DC to see his father.

The seven other winners are:

Mrs Nasim Akhtar Bani, of Watford, Hertfordshire; Mr Brian Bell, of Gravesend, Kent; Miss B. Cowdery, of Barbican, London; Mr Fred Baker, of Tonbridge, Kent; Mr Frank Lavery, of Hemel Hempstead, Hertfordshire; Mr Afsar Sarkar, of Guildford, Surrey; and Mrs Marjorie MacKenzie, of Condon, Surrey.

You will need the new Portfolio Gold card to play the game. If you have any difficulty obtaining one from your newspaper, send an s.a.e. to:

Portfolio Gold, The Times, PO Box 40, Blackburn, BB1 6AJ.

Aids plea for syringe exchange

By Thomson Prentice, Science Correspondent

Drug addicts should be allowed to exchange used syringes for new ones to stop the spread of acquired immune deficiency syndrome (Aids), according to a team of doctors.

The doctors, writing in *The Lancet*, said that other British cities may soon face problems similar to those detected in Edinburgh, where more than half of intravenous drug abusers have been infected with the Aids virus.

The Scottish capital has the highest rate of infection in Britain among drug abusers, largely because of their practice of sharing needles.

The report said that all but one of a group of 46 addicts who attended a self-referral clinic for blood tests and advice in the city had told doctors that they shared syringes. Thirty of the group, which had an average age of 23, showed traces of the infection.

"Sterile needles and syringes should be provided, on a new-for-old basis, to reduce needles-sharing among intravenous drug abusers, since this seems to be a major route of transmission of the HTLV-III virus," the doctors said.

A two-day conference on Aids, organized by the Royal College of Physicians, was told that almost half of the 300 Aids patients in Britain had died.

Post Office computer link includes cash card

By Bill Johnston, Technology Correspondent

The Post Office is to embark on the first stage of its £100 million programme to provide services such as theatre and hotel bookings, personal banking and hotel bookings at its high street shops.

Counter staff will use computer terminals linked to one of the biggest computer networks in Europe, enabling them to perform many of their traditional roles in seconds.

By the end of the summer, more than 130 automated teller machines will also have been installed in selected offices, linking the National Girobank to 24 other financial institutions, including building societies. Customers will be able to withdraw cash and perform limited transactions using cash cards.

Sugar and fat cleared in reports on obesity

Neither animal fat nor sugar makes one fat, according to two separate scientific reports published yesterday.

Britain's overall fat consumption, particularly of animal fat, is about the same as other developed countries, yet the incidence of disease is higher than in Austria, Denmark and Belgium, which all eat more fat than Britons do, the independent Association of Agriculture said.

"It is a reduction in overall calorie intake which is required. The calories contained in fat are no more fattening

than the calories contained in other nutrients, it is only that, weight for weight, there are more of them," the association said.

A report from Glasgow University also concluded that there was no firm scientific evidence to link sugar with obesity. Professor John Durnin said: "The problem is the myth that eating sugar leads to obesity has been repeated so often that it is now taken as fact."

"It is not true that fat people prefer sweet things or that sugar is dangerous to health."

Advice for doctors on cuts risks

The Medical Defence Union, the biggest of the organizations that insure doctors against claims for medical negligence, is advising its members to write to it and to lodge formal warnings with health service managers when health service spending restrictions threaten patient care (Our Social Services Correspondent writes).

The union says in a leading article in its journal that "concern has been expressed by many members that the imposition of strict budgets will lead, or has already led, to deficiencies in patient care."

Necessary economies have to be made, the union says, and waste must be avoided, but "the safety of patients should always be the prime consideration."

"Members are aware of the very real threat that they will be blamed — and sued — if patients suffer harm as a result of the economies."

The union's council, it says, has been provided with examples from all parts of the country of reductions in essential equipment, in nursing services and medical staffing and of closures of wards and operating theatres. "No region appears to have been spared."

To reduce the risk to doctors of being sued if patients suffer from economies, the defence union says, doctors should write to the union and inform the local general manager in writing at the time economies are made.

"If a consultant considers that medical or support services are potentially hazardous, he should use his judgement to decide whether the need for treatment outweighs the risk to the patient. He should record the reasons for his decision in the clinical notes."

The union adds: "It seems likely that there are hard times ahead for patients whose treatment may be jeopardized, doctors and nurses who may be wrongfully accused of negligence, and administrators who have to implement difficult policies."

Campaign to save barn owl

An appeal to protect the barn owl, whose numbers have been halved in the past 50 years, is to be launched later this month.

The Hawk Trust says the owl's natural habitats and food have largely been destroyed by modern intensive farming methods, and thousands are killed every year by motor vehicles.

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Jobless youths seize chance

By Charles Knevit, Architecture Correspondent

Three previously unemployed youths from the St Paul's area of Bristol have started a construction company after learning the necessary skills in a self-build housing project visited by the Prince of Wales last month.

Mr Joseph Gordon and two of his colleagues from the Zenzele Self-Build Housing Association are undertaking local projects for other clients after helping to build and manage their own development of 12 flats for the unemployed in the Fishponds area of the city.

The project is one of 33 short-listed entries in *The Times/RIBA Community Enterprise* scheme. The awards will be presented by the Prince next month at the Royal Institute of British Architects in London.

Mrs Stella Clarke, a Bristol JP, and Miss Tana Adey, a worker for Project Full Em-

ployment, started the self-build project in 1982 because of their concern with young people and housing in the inner city.

The aim was to give 12 young unemployed people a chance to build their own flats and the motivation to improve their skills and encourage high standards of workmanship, thus increasing their job prospects.

By building their own flats each member saved about £6,000 on the £16,000 construction costs. The first flat has recently been sold for £19,000.

Mr Norman Biddle, who is a quantity surveyor with I. E. Symonds & Partners and who was chief adviser to the group, said yesterday that the confidence gained by members of the group and their commitment to the project had led to 11 of the 12 now being in full-time employment; only one

was employed when the project started.

One member of the original group was expelled for "not pulling his weight" and replaced.

Mr Gordon estimated that members of the group with jobs spent up to 35 hours a week building the flats, those originally unemployed up to twice that. Now a management committee has been formed to manage and maintain the flats, with each resident paying a service charge of £3 a week.

The association has produced an honest and comprehensive account of the project from inception to completion, including the method and detailed costings, to encourage other unemployed young people to attempt similar self-build projects.

The report is available from Mr Biddle at I. E. Symonds & Partners, 29-33 Princess Victoria Street, Clifton, Bristol.

Government to publish its proposals for a single family court

By Frances Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent

The Government this week publishes its long-awaited proposals for creating a single family court in England and Wales.

They come against a mounting clamour among MPs, some parts of the legal profession and the "family rights" lobby for the Government to set up such a court to bring family disputes within one forum, and deal with all matters such as divorce, custody, maintenance, adoption and wardship.

Last autumn the Family Courts Campaign was launched by 100 MPs, individuals and organizations, and an early-day motion tabled by Mr Leo Abse, Labour MP for Torfaen, has attracted more than 30 names.

The present system, where family matters are split among three court systems — the magistrates, county courts and High Court — is described as "chaotic".

It is complex, lengthy, costly and confusing; the overlapping jurisdiction can mean cases shuttled back and forth between the different systems. One recent custody case had six hearings at three levels in

three months and cost £20,000.

A family court would also increase specialization by judges and registrars who make decisions in family matters and ensure cases are handled by the appropriate level of judge.

The debate goes back to the proposal of the Finer Committee in 1974 and in spite of support from several governments a family court has never been a top political priority.

Last year the campaign, which is supported by magistrates, social workers and advice workers, was reviewed by the Law Society with proposals for a new two-tier court which it says would redistribute costs, not increase them.

But the Bar does not believe radical change is needed to check the defects in the system. Nor, as the Law Society wants, does it favour laymen involved in sitting on large numbers of family cases.

This week's report, two and a half years in the making and several times delayed because of its complexity, comes at a time when government deter-

mination to act is probably at its weakest.

Lord Hailsham of St Marylebone, the Lord Chancellor, came close to radical reform in 1983, with proposals to reorganize the family jurisdiction of the High Court and county court.

The more radical proposal, backed by the Law Society, was to merge those courts into a family court.

But the Matrimonial and Family Proceedings Act which followed went for the more modest proposal, favoured by the Bar, to improve the distribution of business between the two courts.

That came into effect last week and in the Bar's view may remedy the problem of cases going to an inappropriate court.

Meanwhile, some improvements could be achieved; one concern is the way care cases are handled. The Bar would like to see these removed from magistrates, along with other complex cases such as contested adoption, and placed with a circuit judge familiar with family law or a High Court judge.



Reunion for Simon le Bon and his wife, Yasmin, on the quayside (Photograph: John Voos).

Drug search on race yacht

Customs officers boarded Simon le Bon's yacht, Drum, when it completed the Whitbread Round the World race in Portsmouth at 5 am yesterday.

One of the customs team, numbering about ten, took a sniffer dog on board as the yacht, which had just completed the final leg from Uruguay, was searched, apparently for drugs.

The delay with Drum angered relatives and friends who had stood shivering on the floating pontoon alongside the

yacht, including Le Bon's wife, Yasmin, who went out in a launch to meet the yacht.

Drum, the third yacht to finish, crossed the line off Southsea Castle. It arrived to a dawn chorus of squeals from about 100 fans of the Duran Duran group who had waited during the night playing tapes of their returning hero.

Yasmin told her husband: "You tried damned hard and you did damned good."

The singer was in a happy, but sometimes philosophical

mood after his voyage on the last two legs of the race. He said he would love to do it again, but in somebody else's boat, and loved being part of a team.

"I wanted to do it to find out if I could go to sea with a bunch of men, no women, no music and things like that and change my life completely."

Drum, skippered by Skip Novak, finished the course after sailing 27,000 miles since it left Portsmouth nearly eight months ago.

Army wants laser guns to help in battlefield realism

By Rodney Cowton, Defence Correspondent

The Army is seeking to correct falling standards by introducing a new realism to its battlefield training through the use of laser and electronic equipment. It can simulate much better than ever before the effects of weapons being fired at targets.

This week about twenty generals and many other senior officers as well as Mr John Stanley, Minister of State for the Armed Forces, saw a demonstration on the tank ranges at Holme in north Germany of what can be achieved with the new equipment.

Among those pressing for increased spending on the equipment are Lieutenant-General Sir Brian Kenny, Commander, 1st British Corps, based in Germany, and Major-General Keith Spacie, Director of Army Training.

General Spacie said that in Germany the British Army of the Rhine was 40 per cent short of its needs for ranges for firing live ammunition and there were similar shortfalls in Britain. There were increasing environmental pressures to limit the use of ranges.

The need to economize on ammunition meant that an infantryman was allowed only 30 rounds for live firing a year. As a result, training standards in some respects had fallen to unacceptably low levels which could only get worse.

Traditionally, battlefield exercises have been conducted by tanks, artillery and infantry blazing away at each other with blank ammunition, while thunderclashes and other pyrotechnics simulate explosions on the ground. The trouble is that there has been no way of telling which targets would have been hit and

which men or vehicles destroyed.

Success or failure is determined by umpires who decide who has been "killed". Because those judgements are arbitrary soldiers have little incentive to exercise realistically and tend to operate on the battlefield in full view of the "enemy" as though they were immortal.

Now rifles, guns, missiles and other weapons can be equipped to fire harmless lasers which, if accurately aimed to achieve a hit, activate sensor systems on the targets.

If a "hit" is achieved it automatically causes artificial smoke to pour out of a tank or produces a hissing sound from equipment worn by the infantryman.

The only way the soldier can stop the bleeding is by lying on his back as though dead until a controller comes along to deactivate the equipment by firing another pulse at it.

A senior officer said that with this equipment it was so apparent when a soldier or a vehicle had been hit that they were ashamed into trying much more realistically to use correct battlefield techniques to avoid exposing themselves to fire. The value of the training was increased enormously.

So far the Army has little of the simulator equipment and is pressing for a big increase in the £25 million allocated in the defence budget for buying more.

Mr Stanley said he had been impressed by what he had seen, but refused to commit himself on whether resources for extra equipment could be found.

Irish back divorce, poll says

A new Irish opinion poll has claimed a majority in favour of ending the country's constitutional ban on divorce.

In a further development Sinn Féin, political wing of the IRA, said it would endorse a referendum attempt to change the law and permit divorce for the first time.

The survey, published in yesterday's *Sunday Press* in

Dublin, and carried out by Research Surveys of Ireland, indicated that 49 per cent of those questioned supported scrapping the written Irish constitutional divorce barrier, with 35 per cent against and 13 per cent undecided.

After eliminating the "don't know" 58 per cent were for the move and 42 per cent against. A separate survey last

week had 57 per cent backing the introduction of divorce and the figures are seen in Dublin as part of growing opinion behind altering the 30-year-old constitution.

The Dail is expected to rubber-stamp legislation this week for a nationwide poll next month.

It is being resisted by the Roman Catholic Church.

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Get the Abbey Habit

Talks on manning in prisons

By Peter Evans
Home Affairs Correspondent

A formula to settle the immediate difference between prison officers and management will be put to the test at a meeting between the two sides today.

The question is whether it will also be acceptable to the general membership of the association both as represented at the annual conference or through the ballot box.

The sensitivity of the subject is such that the leadership of the Prison Officers' Association would, uncharacteristically, not go on the record about the issues confronting it yesterday.

But the aim is to get the immediate dispute over manning settled before the annual conference later this month. The difference between the two sides was whether the local manning levels should be settled by negotiations — the officers' wish — or discussion and consultation as management decree, with the governor in the end deciding.

The reduction of the working week, expected by officers to be from 40 to 39 hours, has yet to be dealt with.

But staff speculated that to save the extra hour, management would be tempted to lock up earlier some prisoners not so far suffering shorter periods of association with each other out of their cells.

Sale room

Top prices for model soldiers

In spite of Rambo, Rocky and the new American jingoism, New York toy collectors still believe that the more conventional Christian soldiers head the column (Heron Mallatier writes). On Saturday in New York Phillips offered lead figures by Britain and other leading manufacturers, and less than 1 per cent of a total of \$153,109 (£99,421) was bought in.

A 14-piece Salvation Army band by Britain, produced for only a few months in 1910, sold for \$6,380 (£4,143) against an estimate of between \$2,500 and \$3,000.

A 21-piece set of the Royal Marines light infantry issued from 1938 to 1940 bore the scar of the playroom, but still reached \$5,280 (£3,428) (estimate \$2,000-\$2,500).

Another rarity, because children seemed to prefer colourful dress uniforms to khaki, is the service dress version of the Royal Horse Artillery set. In London one sold for £7,200 two years ago, with prices getting lower as more came out of the toy cupboard. The one offered in New York had a battered box, but the price of \$3,300 (£2,143) was still far above the estimate.

A Gauthermann painted tin clockwork fire engine, made \$2,640 (£1,714).

Science report Discovery brings hope for arthritis patients

New and better treatments for the most widespread and crippling of diseases, arthritis, could come from a technique for observing what happens inside affected joints.

The discovery, made at the Strangeways Research Laboratory in Cambridge, is now in use at Addenbrooke's Hospital near by, and should make it possible to evaluate, for the first time, whether a drug or other therapy improves an arthritic joint, or, as some doctors suspect, only worsens it.

Dr John Dingle, director of the laboratory, said that it would be possible also to monitor new drugs for their effect on the disease itself and not just the symptoms. Strangeways is a medical research charity depending entirely on outside grants, is regarded as one of the leading centres of rheumatism research in the world.

Explaining the development, Dr Dingle said that joint cartilage was made up of collagen fibres holding a substance called proteoglycan. This had a strong affinity for water and, swollen by it, absorbed stresses and strains as well as lubricating joints. Lack of proteoglycan resulted in the wear of cartilage and bone typical of advanced rheumatic disease. Proteoglycan, however, was broken down by another body substance, interleukin one, known as IL-1. This was a messenger molecule, widespread in the body,

which played a role in the immune reaction and in fever, and, probably, also in tissue repair.

Fragments from the breakdown of proteoglycan survived for a short while in synovial fluid, and the amount could be measured by the technique.

In preliminary trials, 100 arthritic patients had been studied, and all had more than healthy people. They could be losing proteoglycan faster than it was being replaced. The amount increased six-fold from the mildly to the severely affected, providing a sensitive scale for comparison.

Dr Pringle said that the laboratory had begun longitudinal studies, observing the changes in individual patients receiving different drug treatments. A drug which was found to be associated with a reduced rate of breakdown would be doing good. On the other hand, one drug associated with a breakdown rate greater than another would be doing less good, and might, at worst, be doing harm, although it relieved pain. They expected worthwhile results in a year.

The laboratory would be able also to monitor new pharmaceutical products which might protect proteoglycan by interfering with IL-1. These might help other conditions that could be caused by IL-1, including heart-valve damage and some eye disorders.

Political fallout from Chernobyl disaster spreads across Europe

Poland calls EEC ban dishonest trick that threatens debt effort

Poland has hit out at the EEC ban on imports of fresh food from Eastern Europe, declaring it to be a politically and commercially motivated attack on the Soviet bloc. The restrictions could hinder efforts to meet payments on Poland's large foreign debt, the Government warned.

Friesian herd from Britain for Russia

By John Young, Agriculture Correspondent

A consignment of 250 Friesian bulls and 200 pregnant cows is being assembled from British farms for shipment to the Soviet Union within the next few days.

It was emphasized yesterday that the deal was the result of negotiations which began several months ago, and unconnected with the Chernobyl disaster.

But the accident is expected to lead to new Russian orders for pedigree cattle from Britain and other West European countries to replace livestock killed or poisoned by the fallout.

The shipment is being organized by the British Livestock

From Roger Boyes, Warsaw

nated by radioactivity "to a degree which would be hazardous to health," except for fresh milk, which was not exported.

Mr Urban said Poland regarded the restrictions as "a discriminatory... expansion of political restrictions" and "a dishonest trick of competition" to edge Polish foodstuffs out of Western markets. He said Poland earned about \$1 billion (2645

million) a year from food exports, and any drop in hard currency earnings could cause difficulties in repaying the \$31 billion debt to the West.

"The creditor countries should see to our solvency through normalization of trade and financial relations with Poland," he said.

"We voice regret that the European Community countries, breaking with human solidarity, batten on a common, all-European grief, namely the contamination of the atmosphere and soil, and use this pretext to damage Poland and her interests."

Poland said it has been conducting rigorous inspections of food exports at custom control points since May.

● BUDAPEST: The official news agency said yesterday that the EEC ban was motivated at least in part by protectionism (AP reports).

● WASHINGTON: The US Government has directed inspectors in ports and airports throughout the country to monitor food imported from 11 countries that may have been contaminated by radioactive material (Christopher Thomas writes).

They are Austria, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, East Germany, Finland, Hungary, Norway, Poland, Sweden, Japan and the Soviet Union.

Germans in atom power protest

From Our Correspondent Bonn

Thousands of West Germans protested against nuclear power at the weekend as panic buying of canned and frozen foods continued.

In Munich on Saturday 15,000 demonstrators brought traffic to a standstill for an hour. There were demonstrations in Düsseldorf and Hesse, and about 100 Westphalian farmers blocked roads to a reactor at Hamm-Uentrop with tractors.

At Stade, near Hamburg, members of "Robin Hood", an environmental protection group, were perched half-way

up a 600ft power mast near a nuclear station for the third day yesterday. They said they would stay there until the plant was shut down.

In Lower Saxony about 6,000 people protested against a planned nuclear waste dump at Gorleben. Some set up road-blocks and lit fires. Police used tear gas and "pepper fog" to disperse them.

● ROME: The anti-nuclear march of 100,000 people through Rome on Saturday can thank the Chernobyl disaster for having provided the first confirmation of the ecologists' impressive influence in Italy (Peter Nichols writes).

Two leaders of the march, Signor Fulco Pratesi, chairman of the Italian branch of the World Wildlife Fund, and Signor Chicco Testa, head of the Environment League, placed a wreath at the Soviet Embassy with the message: "For the present and future victims of Chernobyl."

Political parties abandoned the demonstration, with the exception of the Radicals and the extreme left.

About 80 per cent of those questioned in a weekend poll said they wanted no more nuclear power stations in Italy. Three are in operation.



Ukrainian children in Britain, clutching flowers symbolizing young "victims of Chernobyl" in their homeland, gather at Hyde Park yesterday for a protest march to the Soviet Embassy in London. (Photograph: Suresh Karadia.)

Pollution complaint to Berlin

Bonn — The East German peace movement protested about its country's unsatisfactory environmental protection measures on April 2, four weeks before the Chernobyl accident, it was disclosed at the weekend (Our Correspondent writes).

West German press reports said the movement had sent a 10-page paper to Herr Erich Honecker, the East German leader, and the official East German Communist Party newspaper, *Neues Deutschland*, calling for a "constructive dialogue" between the government and citizens.

The movement complained that East Germany held the top position in Europe for air and water pollution and destruction of the earth.

China admits nuclear deaths

From a Correspondent, Peking

relatively large percentage of the population.

Mr Qian made his remarks at a news conference for foreign journalists in Peking. Only rarely do China's mili-

building two nuclear power plants, one at Daya Bay near Hong Kong, with British and French assistance, the other, called Qinshan, near Shanghai, China's most populous city.

Mr Qian did not refer directly to Chernobyl or to the recent destruction of the US space shuttle Challenger.

But he made it clear that he supported the spirit behind technological innovation. "First we moved from the land to the sea and the air," he said. "Now we are moving from aviation to space. This process is unavoidable — we will always be going forward."

The military chief of staff, General Yang Dezhi, is currently visiting the US to discuss, among other topics, the possible sale of \$550 million worth of avionics equipment to China.

China successfully detonated its first nuclear device in 1964, but is just now embarking on its civilian nuclear programme. The country is

Plant for Libya

The Soviet Union wants to help Libya build a nuclear power plant "which will help the Libyan people economize in the production of oil," Mr Oleg Peryshev, the Soviet ambassador in Tripoli, said in a Libyan television interview monitored by the BBC (Reuters reports).

tary officials speak to Western reporters in a public forum.

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Students protest in support of Karmal

Islamabad (Reuters) — At least eight protests, most of them student demonstrations broken up by secret police, have been held in Kabul in support of the former Afghan Communist Party leader, Mr Babrak Karmal, Western diplomats said yesterday.

They quoted eyewitness reports from the Afghanistan capital describing the latest protest last Tuesday, when secret police beat up and hauled away two busloads of schoolgirls chanting: "Death to Najibullah. We want Karmal. Out with the Soviets. We want an Islamic Government."

On the same day, schoolboys were beaten up when they protested against the former secret police chief, Mr Najib, who replaced Mr Karmal at a tense three-day Central Committee plenum guarded by Soviet tanks last weekend, the diplomats said.

They said the pro-Karmal protests began on April 30 at the university and picked up on May 2. Kabul seemed calmer later in the week. But Afghan troops were still billeted in the exclusive high school which Mr Karmal attended, and the nearby road leading to the Central Committee building was blocked until last Thursday.

Soviet troops threw a tight cordon around the building on May 2, blocked off the Afghan army's barracks and trained tank cannon on the city from the surrounding hills during the three-day session attended by Moscow's Ambassador.

Magistrate is shot dead in Sri Lanka

Colombo — The acting magistrate of Trincomalee in Sri Lanka's Eastern Province, Mr S. Renganathan, was killed by unknown assailants on Friday when he was returning there from Kantalai (Vijitha Yapa writes).

Mr Renganathan, aged 62, a Tamil, was dragged from a vehicle and shot.

Meanwhile, Dr Paul Back and Mr Derek Knight, the two British experts, who investigated the breach of the Kantalai Dam in late April which killed 68 people and made thousands homeless, have ruled out sabotage.

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SECTION FORMAT

The fight against terrorism

Ex-intelligence chief accuses Italy of protecting Gadaffi

From Peter Nichols, Rome

Italian governments have protected Colonel Gadaffi against his enemies and provided him with arms, according to General Ambrogio Viviani, former head of the Military Counter-Intelligence Service.

They had also secretly returned terrorists to Libya in the hope of remaining free of terrorist attacks.

General Viviani, aged 57, directed the military secret service from 1970 to 1974. He says in an interview to be published by the news magazine *Panorama* today that he was under instructions to place the highest priority on protecting Italy's economic interests in Libya, particularly oil interests.

The reliability of the general is undermined by the fact that his name was found among those in the lists of the banned Masonic lodge "Propaganda 2", which is regarded as having had subversive aims. But he is supposed to have been highly regarded in Nato circles.

He says: "We helped the Libyan leader to defeat enemies of his regime. We supplied him with arms, organized his intelligence service and gave him advisers to deal with the modernization of his armed forces."

He says that an attempt to overthrow Colonel Gadaffi in 1970 failed because the Italian secret service informed the Colonel in advance of the

projected landing of enemy Libyan forces. "Gadaffi's troops were waiting for the conspirators and all of them were taken."

Five Libyans who attempted to shoot down an El Al aircraft with a ground-to-air missile near Rome airport were arrested and then sent back to Libya in an aircraft which blew up a few days later above Venice.

Its destruction was the work of the Israeli Secret Service and intended as a warning to the Italians, according to the general.

The irony is that the Prime Minister at the time was Aldo Moro, who was killed by Italian terrorists.

Madrid protests to Libya on envoys

From Harry Debelius, Madrid

The Spanish Ambassador in Tripoli has been instructed to present a note to the Libyan Government protesting that Libyan diplomats have been involved with extremists in Spain, the Prime Minister's office confirmed here yesterday.

A spokesman said on national radio that the protest would not refer specifically to alleged Libyan financing of an international right-wing terrorist gang. The Government would await judicial evaluation of evidence in that case before taking further diplomatic action.

The Interior Ministry said 10 suspected members of the gang had been arrested. Police said a Portuguese and a Spaniard were the first to be arrested as they were allegedly about to place a bomb at the Bank of America office in Madrid on May 2.

Police accused the same two men of planting a bomb which blew up an Air France office in Lisbon last month.

The Interior Ministry alleged that the two men gave evidence indicating that they were promised \$70,000, to be paid by a Libyan Embassy staff member in Madrid, for the two attacks.

Peres sees sanctions as answer

Jerusalem — Israel will do all that is necessary to put a stop to Syria's involvement in international terrorism, Mr Shimon Peres, the Prime Minister, told the Cabinet yesterday (Jan Murray writes). At the same time, he insisted that Israel would do everything it could to avoid a war.

Mr Peres suggested that diplomatic and economic measures could be used against terrorism. Economic sanctions against Syria would be particularly effective, it is thought here, because it is facing an economic crisis which is already endangering the rule of President Assad.



A policeman and soldier searching a pedestrian in Alexandria during the security operation to curb unrest in the township.

Seven more die in black townships

From Michael Hornsby, Johannesburg

At least seven people died over the weekend in continuing unrest in South Africa's black townships, as large numbers of troops and police sealed off the Alexandra ghetto, north-east of Johannesburg, and conducted house-to-house searches.

The number of people killed in the unrest that has raged unabated in black areas since September 1984 reached 1,559 (almost all of them blacks) at the end of last month, according to the South African Institute of Race Relations, an independent body that keeps a tally based on newspaper and police reports.

Of the deaths, 531 were recorded in the first four months of this year, an average of more than 130 a month, and a much higher incidence than in 1985.

On Saturday, the mayor of a black township outside Port

Alfred, in the Eastern Cape, shot and killed one of a group of men who allegedly invaded his home and stabbed him three times. The charged body of another man was later found elsewhere in the township.

The body of another person burnt to death was found in a black area near Port Elizabeth.

Call for full rights

Vienna — The Nobel Peace Prize winner, Bishop Desmond Tutu, arriving in Austria to address conferences on apartheid and press freedom in South Africa, said the anti-apartheid movement was demanding full rights for black people.

He, according to the police. Yesterday a black bus driver was burnt to death in his vehicle by a mob in Guguletu, near Cape Town.

At least three blacks were shot dead by administration officials in Soweto, outside

Johannesburg, when a mob of youths allegedly stoned their vehicle.

Early on Saturday, 1,600 police and soldiers in troop carriers moved into Alexandra, a shanty town of 100,000 inhabitants which is unusual in being surrounded by well-to-do white suburbs. Other black suburbs were razed and re-developed for white occupation 20 years ago.

Their former black residents were moved elsewhere, many to Soweto. Alexandra was threatened with a similar fate for years, but was relieved.

Serious riots broke out there last February, and the place has simmered ever since.

A police spokesman said at the weekend that the operation in Alexandra, which was aimed at stamping out "lawlessness", would continue until further notice.

By midday yesterday, 18 people were reported by the police to have been arrested.

Soldiers also distributed pamphlets appealing for information about political activists. "Are you tired of being harassed? Police need information on those preventing you from going to work, preventing your children from going to school. You can supply information by phoning 838-7111. Your information will be kept confidential."

A caller to the number hears a voice saying, first in Afrikaans and then English: "This is the automatic answering service of the security branch. Please leave your message or information when you hear the signal."

The life of a police informer has become much more hazardous over the past year, during which many blacks suspected of being police agents have been killed by the gruesome method known as the "necklace" — a petrol-filled tyre placed round the victim's neck and set alight.

Madrid march against US base

Madrid (Reuters) — Thousands of demonstrators marched to an air base used by American forces near here to call for Spain's withdrawal from Nato and an end to the US military presence in the country.

The march cut the only road between the city and Madrid's Barajas airport and disrupted flights. About 12,000 US troops are stationed at the Torrejon base, two other air bases and a naval station in Spain.

Record trek

Resolute Bay, Canada (AFP) — Dr Jean-Louis Etienne, aged 39, a Frenchman from Toulouse, yesterday became the first person to reach the North Pole alone on foot and without a dog sledge, after a 63-day trek across the ice.

Acas called

Gibraltar — Acas, the Advisory, Conciliation and Arbitration Service, was called in yesterday in an attempt to break the deadlock between Gibraltar's shipyard, Gibraltar, and the dock workers' union.

Ships collide

Tokyo (AP) — A South Korean container ship sank after colliding with a Japanese ore carrier in fog off southwestern Japan, but all 18 Korean crewmen were rescued.

Town found

Moscow (Reuters) — Soviet archaeologists have found a previously unknown ancient Russian town called Medved (Bear), Tass reported. The town, in the Kalinin region north of here, was built by a Finno-Ugric tribe called the Merya in the 11th century but was never mentioned in chronicles.

Skipper held

Ajaccio (AFP) — The owner and skipper of a pleasure boat which hit rocks and sank off southern Corsica on Friday, killing eight French pensioners and seriously injuring seven other people, has been charged with manslaughter, legal sources here said.

Back to sea

San Francisco (Reuters) — The Second World War US battleship Missouri, on which Japanese officers surrendered in 1945, returned to service after a \$475 million refit. It has been armed with missiles capable of carrying nuclear warheads.

Dry rations

Lagos (AFP) — Villagers in Nigeria's southern state of Benue recently rounded up and whipped 27 rainmakers whom they blamed for the region's lack of rainfall.

Thai King heals an old wound

From Neil Kelly, Bangkok

King Bhumibol of Thailand paid tribute yesterday to a man who was accused almost 40 years ago of complicity in the murder of the ruling monarch, King Ananda, the present King's elder brother.

King Bhumibol presented robes to Buddhist monks participating in funeral rites for the former statesman, Pridi Phanomyong, who died in exile in Paris three years ago.

As they joined in the funeral ceremony, some of his old associates said the King's gesture was a great honour for Mr Pridi and was probably also an appeal for the healing of old wounds.

Mr Pridi is honoured by many Thais as the founding father of democracy in their country and as the leader of the anti-Japanese resistance during the Second World War.

Berlin aide leaves for the West

East Berlin (Reuters) — A former top adviser to Herr Willi Stoph, the East German Prime Minister, emigrated to the West yesterday after years of disillusionment over the country's economic and political system.

Professor Hermann von Berg, aged 53, in the mid-1970s an economic aide to Herr Stoph and a specialist in East-West economic co-operation, said he had been given final permission to leave East Germany in March.

His case was one of the most sensitive and senior in a string of emigrations among qualified professional people.

Professor von Berg said he had arrived in Cologne, West Germany, by train early yesterday morning.

He applied to leave in August, 1985, after many clashes with colleagues. He leaves his wife and two sons behind in East Germany.

After 600 years of friendship

Soares seeks still closer ties

From Richard Wigg and Martha de la Cal, Lisbon

President Soares of Portugal arrived in London yesterday with his Prime Minister, Senhor Anibal Cavaco Silva, to attend ceremonies commemorating the 600-year-old alliance between his country and Britain.

He believes that joining the EEC means that Portugal must intensify bilateral ties with Britain, not slacken them.

Dr Soares, the former Socialist Prime Minister, will be celebrating today with the Queen at Windsor the 600th anniversary of the signing of the Treaty of Windsor, the cornerstone of the relationship between Britain and its "oldest ally".

He is making his first official visit abroad since becoming President nine weeks ago.

He and Senhor Cavaco Silva will also have talks with Mrs Thatcher after the ceremony in St George's Chapel and lunch at Windsor Castle.

"We want to go on intensifying our relations," President Soares told *The Times*. "With this celebration of the Treaty, we want to underline how, within the framework of the EEC, the bilateral relations between Portugal and Britain keep for us all their actuality and significance and all their interest in the political, economic and cultural fields."

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Soares steered Portugal's negotiations with the EEC to a successful conclusion last year with entry on January 1.

He said: "We must develop this convergence of interests in the Common Market, just as in Nato, where we share the same region of the North Atlantic."

The two countries were important trading partners for each other, he said. Last year Britain was Portugal's principal overseas market, with exports worth \$696 million, and third most important supplier, with imports totalling \$440 million, an increase in trade over 1984 of some £50 million each way.

Recalling the Queen's visit to Lisbon and Oporto last year, Dr Soares said: "The links of affection are still as alive as ever between Portugal and England."

His country had kept a privileged relationship with Britain even though after the Second World War Portugal



President Soares: Will celebrate with the Queen.

civil war" in all southern Africa so long as Pretoria fails to reform the apartheid system.

London will be witnessing an early example of Portugal's own experiment in political "cohabitation", with President Soares and Senhor Cavaco Silva, political rivals in the past, at the ceremonies.

Dr Soares saw his role as Portugal's first civilian President for 60 years as ensuring that Portugal enjoys the stability needed for economic development during his five-year term.

He has promised "loyal co-operation" with the Prime Minister, who heads a social democratic, right-of-centre minority Government.

President Soares quickly decided that he would, unlike his predecessor, General Eanes, only work out of the Belem presidential palace, keeping his home near Lisbon University.

"I never was totally absorbed by politics, never lost my contacts with all sorts of people, friends in the arts who were not Socialists, and it is exactly for that reason that I did not want to live as a prisoner, cut off in the presidential palace."

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Sheikh Hasina calls strike in protest against poll 'robbery'

From Michael Hamlyn, Dhaka

Only 21 of the violent-outbreak constituencies where polling was suspended on election day last week will have new polls, the Bangladesh Election Commission announced, in a statement that is bringing no pleasure to the opposition Awami League.

The leader of the League, Sheikh Hasina Wazed, is demanding new polls in an increasing number of constituencies, as more results are declared, and as defeated Awami leaders return to Dhaka.

She began by saying that "at least 50" new elections would be necessary. At the weekend she raised the figure to 100, and now she is demanding new voting in 150 constituencies, and proposes to drive her demand home with a general strike on Wednesday.

This will be the first time that anyone can remember a general strike during Ramadan, the holy month of fasting.

Sheikh Hasina, the daughter of the assassinated father of the Bangladesh nation, Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, held her first mass protest meeting against the turbulent election.

which she describes as election robbery, at the weekend.

About 25,000 men and three women packed into the narrow street outside the Awami League offices close to the business centre of the capital. She was warmly received, and at the end of her speech the demonstrators moved off in a procession which ended in a clash with heavily-armed riot police.

At the same time the second opposition organization, the Bangladesh Nationalist Party, also held a demonstration outside its Dhaka offices.

Its numbers were much smaller, but the crowd there deliberately blocked a main road for half an hour, while police pickets looked on.

The Government yesterday released Begum Khaleda Zia, the leader of the BNP, from house arrest, where she had been held for a week.

The official state of the parties yesterday was as follows: the Jatiyo party, 106 seats; the Awami League, 62; other members of the alliance led by the Awami League, 18; independents, 24; other minor parties, 14.

Curfew in Karachi after clash

From Hasan Akhtar, Islamabad

An indefinite curfew was imposed on Organi, an important Karachi township, at midnight on Saturday, after two days of clashes between residents and police.

The same township had been under curfew for a week last month.

The situation had been tense for several days, since Mr Afzal Ahmad Shahid, a member of Pakistan's National Assembly, went on indefinite hunger strike against the Government's failure to arrange repatriation to Pakistan of Biharis stranded in Bangladesh.

Bhutto's arrest warning

From Our Correspondent, Islamabad

Miss Benazir Bhutto, the daughter of the executed Prime Minister, Mr Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, and leader of the opposition Pakistan People's Party, said yesterday that if the Government arrested her it would be another establishment blunder.

Miss Bhutto, aged 32, completed at the weekend a month-long whirlwind tour across the country, campaigning for the removal of President Zia and fresh elections.

She returned to Pakistan on April 10 after more than two years' self-exile spent in Europe.

Sumo giants stun Princess

From David Watts, Tokyo

The Princess of Wales was granted her wish to see traditional Japanese sumo wrestling yesterday.

But when she came face to face with two of the mountainous men after their contest she blushed at the sight of their 30.8 and 36.7 stone frames.

They had covered their brief pants, but it was some minutes before the Princess could ask questions of Onokuni, a high-ranking wrestler who had just won his bout before a crowd of 10,000, while the royal couple watched from the box used by the Japanese imperial family.

She told Onokuni and Konishiki, the American Samoan-born wrestler who is one of two foreigners at the top in sumo, that the wrestling had "made the trip" for her and the Prince of Wales.

The two grapplers were equally impressed with the Princess. "She's beautiful," Konishiki said. "But if she were my wife I'd want her to put on some more weight."

He said that at first he was more nervous than before a bout: "I thought I'd be holding back, but it was okay."

Outside the stadium thousands were waiting to see the couple, the first chance ordinary people had had to see the "superstar Princess", as the Japanese media have been calling her.

More than 100,000 lined the route of their motorcade through the city at lunchtime. In scenes of near hysteria, young women and schoolgirls were screaming and squealing with delight as she came into sight. They ran through the lines of surprised police, who abandoned the attempt to stop them from trying to run alongside the fast-moving open car in which she rode with the Prince.

She looked relaxed much of yesterday, but there were still signs of the tiredness which has plagued her since she arrived in Japan.

The royal Sunday began with Prince Charles reading the lesson at St Alban's church. Prayers were said for



The Princess of Wales face to face with Konishiki after his bout at Ryogoku sumo stadium in Tokyo yesterday.

her store walkabout with the Prince. Occasionally they stopped to admire the British products. Asked if he would like to buy something, Prince Charles joked that he could not, because English law forbade Sunday shopping.

Japan's best-known children's choir gave exquisite renditions of "God bless the Prince of Wales". "Green grow the rushes-o" and a Japanese lullaby.

Waldheim 'unaware of deportations report'

Vienna (AP) — An aide to Dr Kurt Waldheim said yesterday that the former UN Secretary-General was unaware of any documents linking him to Nazi deportations of Italians from Greece, as reported by a British newspaper.

The Sunday Times said a

document apparently initiated by Dr Waldheim recorded his telephone report to the German high command in Salonika, after Italy's surrender in 1943, that more than 23,000 Italian troops were being loaded aboard trains for deportation. It said the document was discovered among

German Army records in the US National Archives.

"The quoted document is not known... and that is why we cannot respond to details at present," Herr Ferdinand Trautmannsdorfer said.

TEL AVIV: President Herzog said yesterday that Israel should not interfere in

the Austrian presidential elections (AP reports). His note of caution followed bitter criticism by Israel's Foreign Minister, Mr Yitzhak Shamir, and Mr Moshe Arens, the acting Foreign Minister, after the first round of the elections, in which Dr Waldheim captured 49.6 percent of the vote.

US-backed Contras lure rival's top aides

From Martha Honey, San José

Six of the seven field commanders in Señor Edén Pastora's anti-Sandinista Democratic Revolutionary Alliance (Arde) have defected to a rival Contra organization.

Contra sources said the move was made official at a signing ceremony on Friday attended by Señor Pastora's commanders and Señor Fernando "El Negro" Chamorro, chief of a small group aligned with the Nicaraguan Democratic Force (FDN), the largest, US-backed, Contra group, based in Honduras.

As a result, most of Señor Pastora's estimated 3,000 guerrillas are expected to accept Señor Chamorro as their commander, thereby opening a new FDN front in southern Nicaragua.

The agreement came after secret talks between the commanders and FDN and CIA representatives.

Ironically, the signing ceremony, in a house in a San José suburb, came on the first day in office of Costa Rica's new President, Dr Oscar Arias, who has vowed to stop Contras from operating here.

Señor Karol Prado, a spokesman for Señor Pastora, said the rebel leader was inside Nicaragua with about 300 loyal troops. He said Señor Pastora understood that his commanders were lured into the new alliance with promises of sufficient supplies, but he condemned "the manipulations of the CIA" which led to the desertions.

Señor Pastora has been at odds with the US, and has not received supplies from it because of his refusal to unite with the FDN. US aid was stopped two years ago after an assassination attempt against Señor Pastora which, evidence indicates, was engineered by the CIA and the FDN.

FBI suspected of protecting Teamster boss

From Christopher Thomas, Washington

Mr Jackie Presser, head of the scandal-ridden Teamsters Union, may be indicted soon on corruption charges. The case raises broader questions about a possible attempt by the Federal Bureau of Investigation to protect him from prosecution.

The investigation of Mr Presser was reopened earlier this year, after it had mysteriously been dropped by the FBI last year.

The FBI had spent 32 months in exhaustive probing of his alleged links with organized crime, and allegations that he employed people who never did any work for the unions.

Mr Presser's alleged crimes may have been approved by one arm of the FBI, as part of a broader investigation into organized crime, without the knowledge of other sections of the FBI, which were focusing on the Teamsters.

Justice Department officials said the case was reopened because FBI agents might

have committed perjury to protect Mr Presser. Law enforcement officials have described him as a valuable informer about organized crime.

A federal grand jury in Cleveland could act against Mr Presser as early as this week, according to Justice Department officials. Another grand jury in Washington has been trying to determine whether FBI agents lied about their dealings with Mr Presser.

Senate investigators released a report on Friday alleging that the FBI had hampered FBI investigators studying allegations that Mr Presser had authorized payments of more than \$700,000 (\$460,000) to union employees who did no work.

The Senate government affairs investigations subcommittee said the FBI may have repeatedly misled other government investigators about their alleged use of Mr Presser as an informer.

Louisiana jury clears Fast Eddy's name

New Orleans (AFP) — Ed-

win Edwards, three-times Governor of Louisiana and one of the most influential and colourful characters on the state political scene for the past 30 years, walked out of court a free man this weekend.

Fast Eddy, as he is familiarly known, was acquitted on all the charges against him, ranging from fraud to racketeering and obstructing the course of justice.

The jury took 12 hours to reach its verdict, acquitting Mr Edwards, his brother Marion and three associates, of using his influence to get building contracts granted for hospitals and private clinics in which they had an interest.

Mr Edwards was accused of pocketing \$2 million (£1.3 million).

Saturday's verdict came at the end of a second trial lasting four weeks. The first trial, which lasted three months, ended last December with the jury inclined towards acquittal but unable to reach a majority verdict after a week of deliberations.

One juror said on Saturday

that the prosecution did not present enough concrete evidence.

After the verdict, Mr Edwards, who is a Democrat, accused Mr John Volz, the prosecutor and a Republican appointee, of having turned the trial into a political ploy to harass the state's Democratic Government.

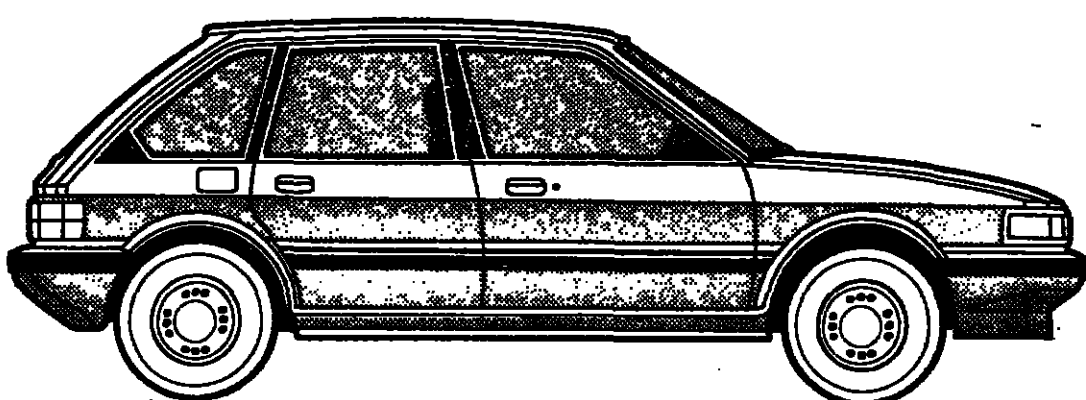
Governor from 1971 to 1979 and re-elected for a third term in 1983, the Cajon King, as he is also known, has said that the only thing which could cheat him of victory would be to be found in bed with a dead girl or a live boy. A poker player and womanizer, his supporters consider him the best tonic against boredom.

Mr Edwards is the most popular politician in Louisiana since Huey Long, who was assassinated in 1935 as he was preparing to contest the presidency against Franklin D. Roosevelt. He seems to enjoy the total indulgence of his electorate, even over alleged gambling debts of \$2 million run up at the casinos in Nevada, on which the two trials hinged.

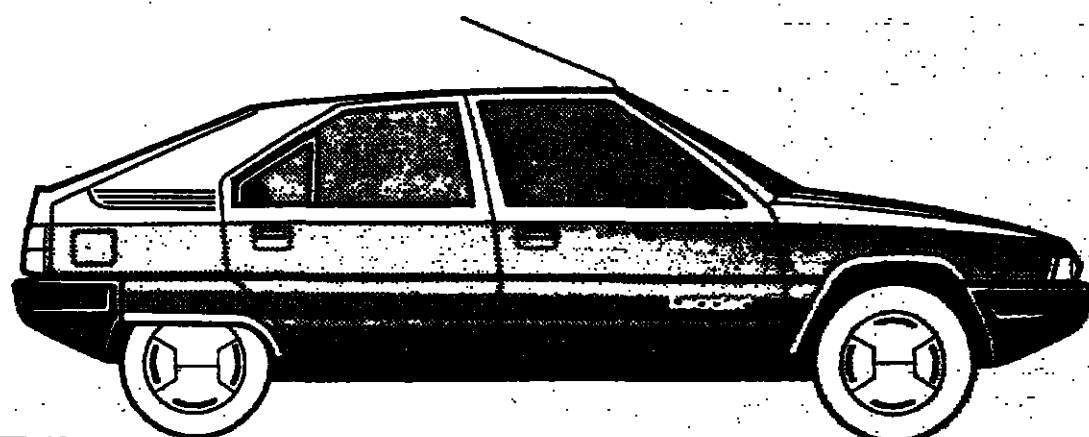


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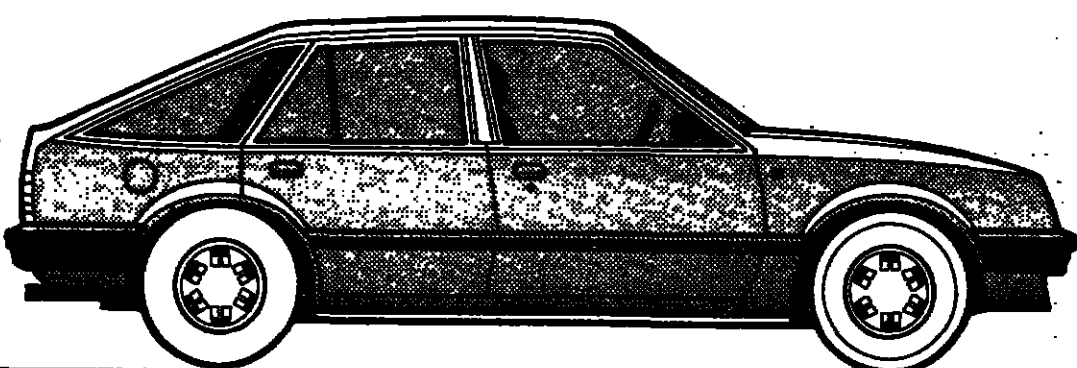
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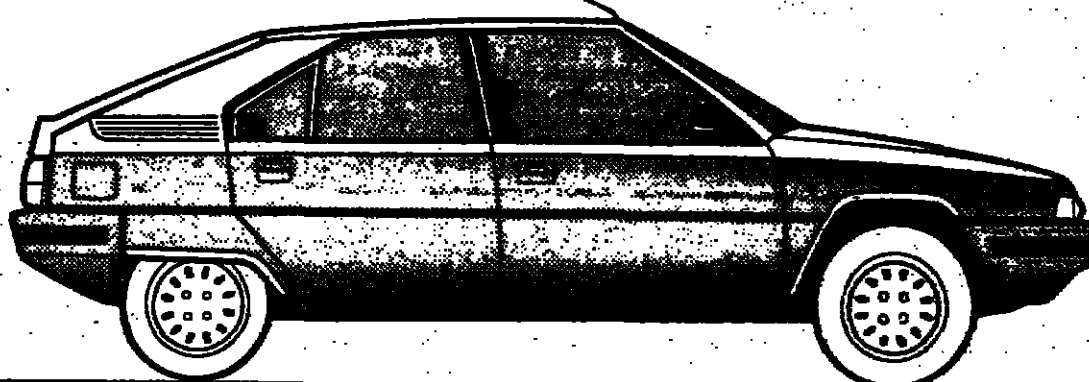
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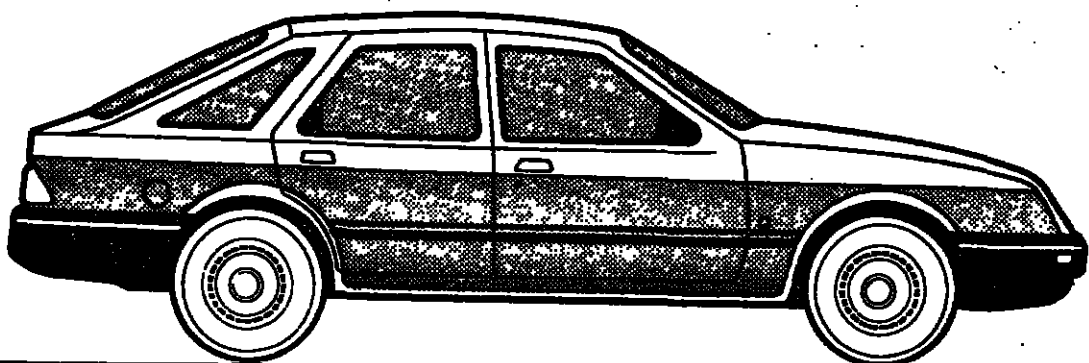
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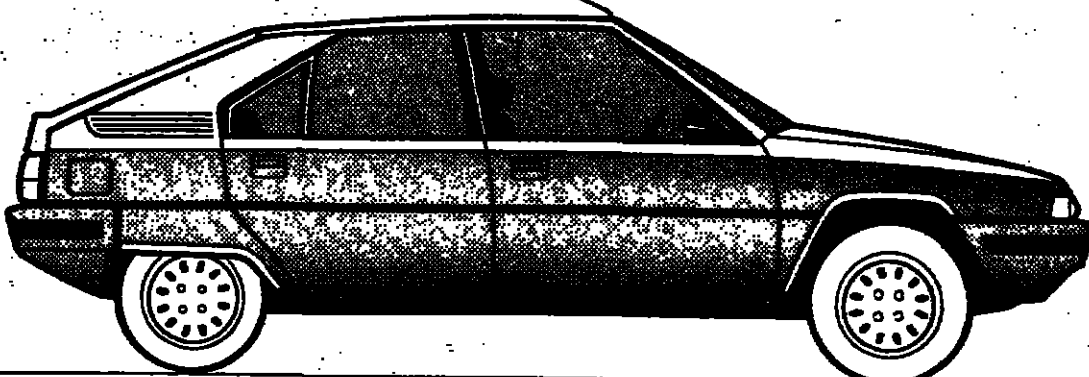
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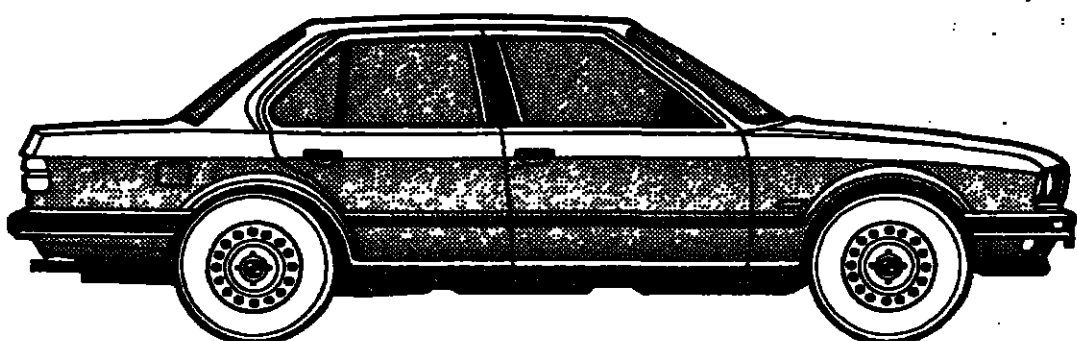
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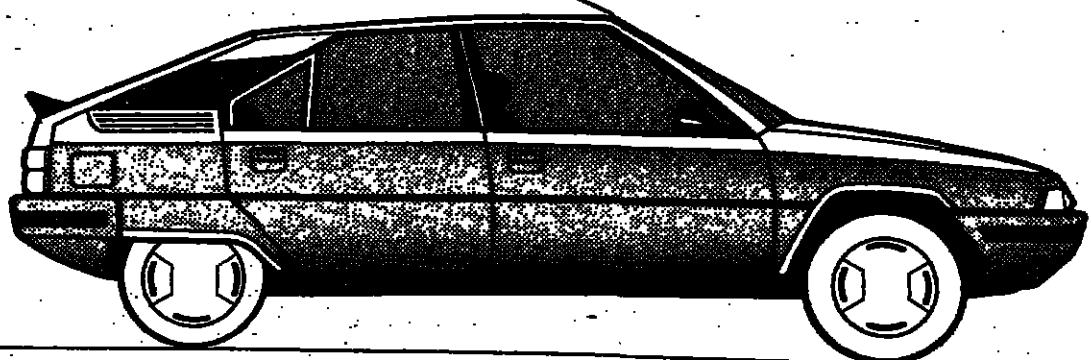
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United Nations agrees reluctantly to cut budget deficit by half

From Zoriana Pysariwsky, New York

The United Nations, in the throes of its worst financial crisis, has taken the radical step of attempting to ease the pressure this year by authorizing cutbacks in a series of projects and programmes. But it has failed to confront the long-term threat to its financial stability.

After two weeks of recriminations, wrangling and forecasts of failure, the special session of the General Assembly agreed at the weekend to allow Señor Javier Pérez de Cuellar, the Secretary-General, to implement most of his package of proposals for reducing by more than half the \$100 million (\$65.4 million) shortfall anticipated in the 1986 budget.

But the benefits were expected to be fleeting; the problems which are plaguing the UN, including drastic cuts

in the US assessed contribution, will recur next year.

The two-week session proved to be a test of wills between the Secretary-General and the Western industrialized countries, which supported his package, and the Third World, which controls the way the UN spends its money.

Although Señor Pérez de Cuellar emerged victorious, many diplomats said it was a Pyrrhic triumph which left Third World countries bitter and not in the mood for further stringent measures.

His cutbacks are controversial, as they will affect highly politicized activities such as the special committee to investigate Israeli practices in the occupied territories and the working group on the new international economic order.

Although many, if not all,

delegations complain that the UN has too many meetings, many of which are scarcely noticed by the world outside, there is nevertheless a tremendous outcry against proposals to reduce their number.

Also working against the Secretary-General is the belief, held by Third World countries, that claims that the UN is in dire financial straits are a ruse to allow the West to wrest control over spending priorities from the poor, majority.

The UN's special emphasis on holding Israel, South Africa and the perceived inadequacies of the West up to special scrutiny is what turned the Reagan Administration's dissatisfaction with the UN into open hostility. This has led to the White House withholding one third of its \$210 million contribution to the annual UN budget.

Philippines still under shadow of Marcos

From Keith Dalton, Manila

From his seaside villa in Hawaii, ex-President Ferdinand Marcos still casts a long shadow over the political workings of the 11-week-old Government of Mrs Corason Aquino.

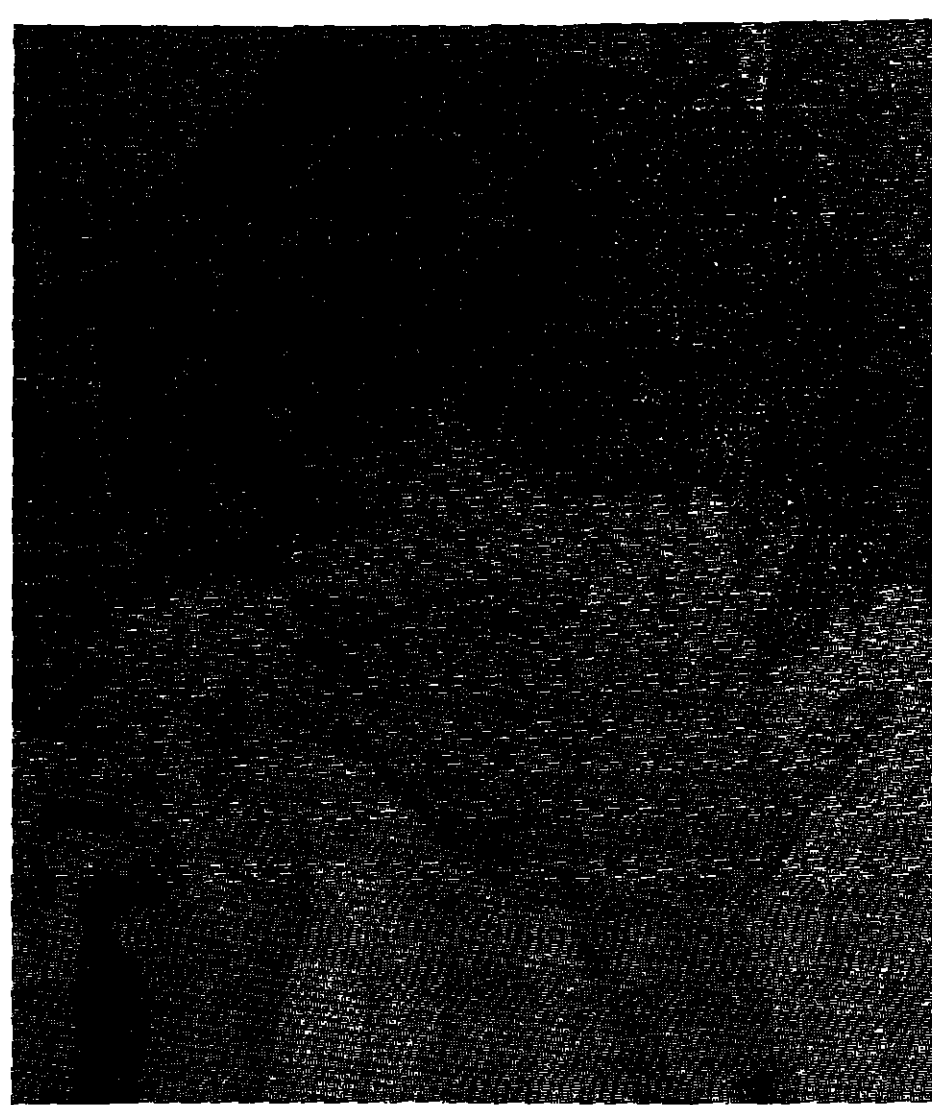
A month ago he predicted that the new President would fall to a communist insurgency "within a month". Now his revised prediction, made in a rambling telephone call to Marcos loyalists in Manila last week, is that the takeover is "imminent".

Still claiming popular support and the presidency of the Philippines, Mr Marcos has maintained regular telephone contact with loyal subordinates of the once-powerful ruling party, the KBL, and never tires of reminding visitors of his "I shall return" pledge.

The 68-year-old exile is unmoved by the warning from the Defence Minister, Mr Juan Ponce Enrile, that he will be arrested if he returns, on charges that he plundered \$10 billion (\$6 billion) from the country's coffers during his 20-year rule.

"If the Philippines insist on my return and accept me upon my return, there is nothing Mr Enrile can do about it, because the Filipino people will ensure my safety from anyone, even from Mr Enrile," he confidently told his party faithful in an hour-long call, on reversed charges, to map out future strategies to derail the Aquino Government.

Recent well-organized pro-Marcos rallies — the latest of which was held yesterday, and which officials say were funded by the ex-President — culminated in bitter stone-throwing street battles on May Day and a radio appeal by Mr Marcos for riot police and soldiers to disobey orders.



President Corason Aquino ponders a knotty problem during a Cabinet meeting.

But for most Filipinos Mr Marcos is a spent force, whose legacy — a shattered dictatorship and a devastated economy — plagues the reformist Aquino Government's every move.

Pressures on Aquino Part 1

Mrs Aquino has acted quickly, dismantling the pillars of the Marcos dictatorship — the rubber-stamp National Assembly, the armed forces, the courts and the bureaucracy.

But every step has been met with resistance and complaints, for hers is a fragile political mishmash of conflicting parties and personalities, pushed unexpectedly into power by a 77-hour, civilian-backed military revolt that overthrew one of Asia's longest-serving strongmen.

The Aquino Government is not a coalition but a loosely-knit alliance whose members cover the full political spectrum from the left-inclined Labour Minister, Mr Augusto Sanchez, a human rights lawyer, to the right-wing Defence Minister, whose defection from the Marcos camp sparked the revolt.

Criticism that Mrs Aquino

has become a dictator springs from the fact that, when she abolished Parliament, she granted herself sweeping legislative powers until a new constitution is drawn up and elections can be held for a new legislature within a year.

But she has used her powers sparingly. Only one political opponent has been arrested on pre-election murder charges, and most decisions are taken after full consultation with her Cabinet.

The more common complaint is that her consensus-style Government is too slow.

The replacement of provincial governors and mayors, whose six-year terms expired in March, has become a political minefield of intrigue, with familial and political powerbrokers scrambling to fill vacant posts at the expense of much-needed government unity.

The quick sequestration of properties, houses and buildings of Marcos cronies, and the witch hunt to recover the former President's overseas fortune, have resulted in accusations of vindictiveness.

Tomorrow: Legacy of poverty

Investors in China urged to hang on

From A Correspondent, Peking

Mr James Baker, the US Treasury Secretary, said at the weekend that foreign businesses in China faced some serious problems which Chinese officials must help to resolve.

"The Chinese want to increase foreign investment here, but investment is a two-way street," said Mr Baker. "Some people are frankly concerned about the high cost of doing business in China. The uneven, even erratic application of new tax laws, proper labour support and foreign exchange problems."

He made his remarks at a news conference held at the opulent Daiyutai state guest house in Peking after two days of talks with Chinese officials. He arrived in Peking, accompanied by 32 officials, from the Tokyo economic summit, to attend the sixth annual meeting of the Sino-American joint economic committee.

From his conversations with Western businessmen in Peking, Mr Baker said he felt the general mood was not as positive as it should be.

"It is such that I think it is important that it be addressed. But I would tell the businesses suffering from these problems to hang in there, because the Chinese seem to be embarked on a course that they are not going to reverse."

The American Motors Corporation in Detroit recently announced that its troubled Beijing Jeep assembly joint venture in Peking would shut down for two months because it cannot obtain enough foreign exchange from its Chinese partners to continue operations.

Senior AMC officials arrived in Peking last week to seek relief from the Chinese Premier, Mr Zhao Ziyang, and China's State Council.

Mr Baker said that, during his talks with the Chinese Premier, Mr Zhao brought up the AMC issue, so he was confident the problems would be resolved.

While in Peking the US delegation raised the possibility of a bilateral investment treaty, outlined the growing trade protectionism in the US and "discussed Taiwan for about four minutes", Mr Baker said.

Falklands on UN chief's UK agenda

From Our Correspondent, New York

Señor Javier Pérez de Cuellar, the UN Secretary-General, is in Wales today on the first leg of his four-day official visit to Britain, which will be highlighted by an audience with the Queen later in the week and meetings with Mrs Thatcher, the Prime Minister, and Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary.

He arrives amid speculation over his intentions concerning a second term as Secretary-General after his current spell in office runs out at the end of the year. He has said that he wants to leave the post, but has not ruled out the possibility of being drafted by the Security Council for another five years.

Señor Pérez de Cuellar is known to be in the good graces of the British Government, which has praised his handling of the Falklands dispute, including his decision not to bring public pressure to bear on Britain to reopen negotiations on the sovereignty issue, as mandated by the General Assembly.

Before embarking on his trip, however, the Secretary-General told reporters that he would be renewing the offer

his good offices to bring about a reconciliation between Britain and Argentina.

He said that during his recent talks with Argentine leaders in Buenos Aires he had found real interest in reaching a solution to the Falklands dispute.

Noting that the Opposition in Britain has different views on negotiations over Falklands sovereignty, the Secretary-General said he would meet Mr Neil Kinnock, the Labour Party leader.

Also on the agenda for his meetings with Mrs Thatcher and Sir Geoffrey Howe will be Cyprus, the Middle East, Afghanistan, the Iran-Iraq war, Namibia, terrorism and the UN's financial crisis.

It is understood that Señor Pérez de Cuellar has engaged the help of Mrs Thatcher in trying to persuade the Greek Cypriots to accept the latest in a long series of UN plans for a political settlement, leading to a reunification of the island.

The visit will culminate on Thursday with Señor Pérez de Cuellar's first audience with the Queen since assuming his post.

Critics of shuttle 'punished'

Washington (AP) — Two rocket company employees who tried to stop the launch of the space shuttle Challenger have told a presidential commission that they have been punished for disclosing their efforts.

The panel's chairman said the treatment of Allen McDonald and Roger Boisjoly, both Morton Thiokol engineers, was shocking.

The commission released a transcript of a closed hearing which shows there were objections to the design of the shuttle booster rockets as far back as 1971 — 10 years before the first flight — and that the commission is concerned that pressure to resume flying could repeat some of those problems.

The day-long hearing on May 2 found commissioners repeatedly trying to task Mr Lawrence Mulloy, the NASA official responsible for supervising the booster rockets. He was also censured for repeatedly clearing them to fly despite growing evidence of problems with the rocket joint, which is thought to have destroyed Challenger.

From Keith Dalton, Manila

An anti-graft board was established in the Philippines yesterday to investigate allegations of widespread corruption against senior officers in the armed forces.

The Chief of Staff, General Fidel Ramos, said the "self-cleansing" by the 250,000-strong armed forces of

individuals "guilty of the misuse or abuse of government funds" would be carried out by a panel of seven.

The "anti-graft and corrupt practices board" will investigate the "ill-gotten wealth" of active and retired senior officers, in collaboration with the Presidential Commission on Good Government.

General Ramos said fewer than six senior generals were

still under house arrest since the February revolt against Mr Marcos, and they could be among those investigated.

He refused to name the generals, but Mr Marcos' three service chiefs are still in military custody.

It's possible, General Ramos said when asked if the President's Commission on Good Government would investigate for corruption in office.

Law Report May 12 1986

Court of Appeal

Tenant's improvements are relevant

Brett v Brett Essex Golf Club Ltd

Before Lord Justice Slade, Lord Justice Croom-Johnson and Sir John Megaw

[Judgment given May 7]

In determining whether a revised rent payable under a rent review clause of a lease entered into in 1978, improvements voluntarily carried out by the tenant under a previous lease which the 1978 lease had superseded were not to be disregarded.

The Court of Appeal so held, allowing an appeal by the landlord, Mr John Dudley Brett, against the order of Judge Finlay QC sitting as a judge of the Chancery Division on October 19, 1984 (*The Times* October 25, 1984) that a golf clubhouse and nine-hole golf course erected during the currency of a lease entered into in 1973 by the landlord and the tenant company, Brett Essex Golf Club Ltd, were to be disregarded in assessing the revised rent payable under the rent review clause of a lease between the same parties made in 1978 and which operated as a surrender of the earlier lease.

Mr Robert Pryor, QC and Mr T. R. F. Jennings for the landlord; Mr Alan Steinfield for the company.

LORD JUSTICE SLADE said that the case concerned the construction of a rent review clause in a lease granted in 1978 and the effect of the incorporation of a reference to paragraphs (a), (b) and (c) of section 34 of the Landlord and Tenant Act 1954.

In its original form section 34 provided for the determination of rent disregarding "(c) any effect on rent of any improvement carried out by the tenant or a predecessor in title of his otherwise than in pursuance of an obligation to his immediate landlord..."

The House of Lords held in *East Coast Amusement Co Ltd v British Transport Board* ([1965] AC 58), that section 34(c) referred only to improvements carried out by the tenant applying for determination of the rent during the currency of the lease.

Section 34 had been amended by section 1(1) of the Law of Property Act 1969, had been renumbered subsection (1) and a new subsection (2) had been introduced.

The landlord let certain premises to the company for 30 years from July 9, 1973 under a lease dated August 13, 1973. The landlord held 750 of the 1000 shares in the company at the time.

By the end of 1977 the company had laid an 18-hole golf course and a clubhouse on the demised premises and had also laid a nine-hole golf course on adjoining land.

On February 14, 1978, the landlord granted to the company a new lease for 50 years from that date at a rent of £12,000 a year for the first three years, with provision for a rent

review at the end of the third year.

The demised premises included those the subject of the previous lease as well as the land on which the nine-hole course had been laid.

At the same time the landlord sold his shares in the company to other shareholders.

Clause 4 provided that the reviewed rent should be the higher of the first reserved rent and the open market rental value of the demised premises for the review period, "disregarding (if applicable) those matters set out in paragraphs (a), (b) and (c) of section 34 of the Landlord and Tenant Act 1954..."

When the 1978 lease was executed it was apparently the intention of the parties that there should be a further review of rent after each successive seventh year.

The landlord, by writ, claimed rectification of the lease to include such review. The statement of claim additionally claimed a declaration against the company that the clubhouse and nine-hole golf course were not to be disregarded in determining the relevant open market rental value for the purposes of clause 4.

At the trial the lease was rectified under a consent order.

With regard to the declaration, the judge held that the reference in clause 4 to paragraphs (a), (b) and (c) of section 34, were to the section in its original form, albeit that by the time the lease was entered into, the section had been amended.

His lordship further held that when the references in clause 4 to paragraphs (a), (b) and (c) of section 34 were properly construed in their context, having regard to the matrix of facts in which the lease had been executed, they required the clubhouse and golf course to be disregarded in determining the revised rent.

There was no direct authority on the question whether a reference to section 34 of the 1954 Act in a lease granted after

the passing of the amending 1969 Act was a reference to section 34 as originally enacted or to the amended version.

The matter was not argued in *Euston Centre Properties Ltd v H & J Wilson Ltd* ([1982] 262 EG 1079).

His Lordship agreed with counsel for the company that in many cases where the parties to a written contract incorporated a reference to a statute which had been amended, it would be reasonable to impute to them an intention to refer to the statute in its amended form, but there was no common law presumption to that effect.

Whether the reference was to the original or the amended form depended entirely on the context.

There were compelling reasons why the reference to section 34 was to the unamended version.

First, since the 1969 Act introduced a new subsection (2) to section 34 which also contained paragraphs (a), (b) and (c), it would not be an accurate reference to the amended section 34 simply to refer to "paragraphs (a), (b) and (c) of section 34..."

Second, unlike the amended section 34, the unamended section 34 could readily be incorporated in a rent review clause.

Third, if the draftsman of the 1978 lease had had the amended section 34 in mind, he could reasonably have been expected to specify in greater detail the way in which the provisions were to apply to the rent review clause.

Finally, it was to be observed that other clauses of the lease specifically referred to statutes and to their amendments, and the draftsman could reasonably have been expected to refer specifically to the 1969 amendments in the lease, if he had that knowledge or intention.

The critical question of construction was whether the relevant works, namely the erection of the clubhouse and the creation of the nine-hole golf

course, were "improvements" within the meaning of clause 4 and, if so, whether they were carried out by the tenant within that meaning.

The first of those questions could only be answered in the negative. "Improvements" meant improvements to the demised premises, the premises referred to in the 1978 lease, the clubhouse and the nine-hole golf course were part of the demised premises.

It would not make sense so to construe clause 4 as to require the disregard of improvements to the demised premises consisting of the erection of the clubhouse or the creation of the golf course, which were themselves included in the demised premises.

Although the reasoning of Lord Morris in *East Coast Amusement Co Ltd v British Transport Board* ([1965] AC 58, 74) was not found compelling by the other Lords of Appeal, it was compelling, *mutatis mutandis*, where the wording of section 34(c) was incorporated by reference in a rent review clause of a lease.

The reference to paragraph (c) of section 34 when incorporated in clause 4 was, in its context, apt to refer only to works carried out by a new tenant in spite of the opposition of the landlord, Peachey Property Corporation plc.

Mr Martin Mann, QC and Mr M. J. Gadd for Cerec; Mr Paul Morgan for Peachey.

LORD JUSTICE SLADE said that where a lease reserved certain powers of entry wide

enough to empower the landlord to effect only part of works of demolition, reconstruction or work of construction which he intended to carry out on the termination of the current tenancy, and the landlord opposed the new tenancy on the ground that he intended to demolish and reconstruct the premises within section 30(1)(f) of the Landlord and Tenant Act 1954, but the tenant invoked section 31A(1)(a) of the Act, as inserted by section 7 of the Law of Property Act 1969, then the court, in the light of *Heath v Drown* ([1973] AC 498), would have to identify (a) those works which the landlord could reasonably carry out by exercising those powers of entry and (b) those additional works which the landlord could not reasonably carry out without obtaining legal possession of the premises.

For category (b) works *Reform v Reeves* ([1978] 37 P&CR 364) and *Price v Esso Petroleum Co Ltd* ([1980] EG 243) laid down the following principles:

First, the question whether the contemplated works could reasonably be carried out without interfering to a substantial extent or for a substantial time with the use of the holding for the purpose of the business carried on by the tenant was a question of fact and degree.

Second, in approaching that question, the court had to look simply to the physical effects of the works on the use of the holding for the purposes of the business carried on by the tenant rather than any potential interference with the business or its goodwill.

Third, it must assess the time and extent of the interference by reference only to the period during which the works were actually to be carried out, not by reference to the future of the business after the works would be completed.

However, none of the decisions cited dealt with a further point, namely, whether in the context of section 31A(1)(a) the two constituent parts of the

phrase "to a substantial extent or for a substantial time" were to be read conjunctively or disjunctively.

The general purpose of the draftsman was to enable the tenant to invoke section 31A(1)(a) if, though only if, the landlord could reasonably carry out that relevant new work for which he had to obtain legal possession of the premises.

The tenant had to obtain legal possession of the premises if the landlord had offered the landlord all the facilities for doing the rest of the work.

Mr Justice Caulfield agreed.

Solicitors: Barry Phillips & Co, Simmons & Simmons.

Minister has power to correct error

Regina v Secretary of State for the Environment, Ex parte Great Grimsby Borough Council

Before Mr Justice Russell

[Judgment given May 7]

On the proper construction of paragraph 4.5B and 5C of Schedule 7 to the Town and Country Planning Act 1971, as amended by the Local Government Planning and Land Act 1980, the Secretary of State for the Environment had power to make an order, subsequent to the adoption and approval of a local plan, in order to correct an error made in a continuation in force order.

Mr Justice Russell so held in the Queen's Bench Division when granting the applicant, Great Grimsby Borough Council, a declaration that the secretary of state had power to make an order under paragraph 5B directing that the County Borough of Grimsby Development Plan should continue in force, notwithstanding the adoption of the Humberside County Council Intensive Livestock Units Local Plan.

Mr Anthony Forster for the council; Mr John Laws for the secretary of state.

MR JUSTICE RUSSELL said that the 1971 Act provided for the replacement of old development plans under earlier legislation by structure and local plans. In 1980 there came into existence a local plan, the intensive livestock plan, the Humberside Intensive Livestock Units Local Plan.

The secretary of state should preserve the Grimsby development plan which dealt in detail with town and country planning matters within the area administered by the council.

A draft order was produced which contained in its schedule all those development plans

which were to continue in force. The County Borough of Grimsby Development Plan was included in the Schedule.

It was clear the secretary of state had decided to make an order continuing the operation of the council's old development plan.

In April 1984 Humberside County Council decided to adopt the intensive livestock units local plan. Virtually contemporaneously with the resolution to adopt, the secretary of state issued a final order.

By a clerical error the Grimsby development plan and two others were omitted from the final order which the secretary of state issued.

It was submitted for the applicant that paragraph 5B of Schedule 7 answered the question whether there was power in the secretary of state to make an order preserving a development plan after the approval of a local plan by Humberside County Council.

It was conceded that by paragraph 5A, an old development plan ceased to have effect, but that the secretary of state could resurrect the plan, albeit at a date subsequent to the approval of the local plan.

The applicant also submitted, relying on section 14 of the Interpretation Act 1978 that the secretary of state had power to

amend his order so that it had effect retrospectively.

However, section 14 did not avail the applicant unless the secretary of state had power under paragraph 5B to issue an order subsequent to the adoption or approval of a local plan.

His Lordship found great difficulty in deciding the proper, fair and realistic construction of paragraphs 5A, 5B and 5C but concluded that it was permissible for the secretary of state to make an order subsequent to the adoption or approval of the local plan.

Solicitors: Mr M. J. Burniston, Grimsby; Treasury Solicitor.

No duty of care to neighbours

Shankie-Williams and Others v Heavey

Before Lord Justice May and Sir David Cairns

[Judgment given May 6]

A surveyor engaged to ascertain whether the woodwork in a flat which was about to be sold was infected with dry rot owed a duty of care in the execution of that task to potential purchasers of that flat, but not to potential purchasers of adjacent flats.

The Court of Appeal so held in allowing an appeal by the defendant, Mr Joseph Patrick Heavey (trading as 'Damp Tech'), against an order of Judge Tibbert at Edmonstone County Court who on October 29, 1985 had awarded the plaintiffs, Mr David Malcolm Shankie-Williams, Mrs Norma Elsie Shankie-Williams and Mr Geoffrey Daulby, damages for the defendant's negligence in surveying for dry rot a ground-

floor flat which the first and second plaintiffs had subsequently bought.

The defendant had reported that there was no evidence of dry rot in the flat, but thereafter serious dry rot had been discovered in that flat and the one above.

Mr Andrew Gordon-Saker for the defendant; Mr John Sessions for the plaintiffs.

LORD JUSTICE MAY said that the defendant had owed the first and second defendant a duty of care, and it would be assumed that the judge had been right to find that he had been negligent.

However, there was no evidence that his report had induced those plaintiffs to buy the flat, and thus causation had not been proved.

The third plaintiff had seen the report and, reasonably believing it to refer to the whole

building, had relied upon it in purchasing the flat immediately above that to which the report in fact referred.

In his Lordship's judgment there was no sufficient nexus between the defendant and a prospective purchaser of the first-floor flat as would impose a duty of care to the latter on the defendant.

If such a duty did exist, given the nature of dry rot it would surely equally be owed to a prospective purchaser of a second-floor flat, or of a flat in the same terrace two doors away.

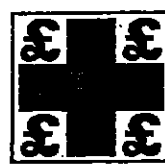
His Lordship did not think that a surveyor owed such a far-reaching duty, and accordingly he allowed the suit by the third plaintiff.

Solicitors: Adam Shale & Co, Wembley; Percy Short & Cuthbert, Holloway.

هكذا قالوا

Is cash redistribution helping our health service? Nicholas Timmins begins a three-part series with a look at London

Emergency case for the capital



London's hospitals are in crisis. Early this year two of the big teaching hospitals, University College Hospital and the Middlesex, closed to all but emergency cases for a month over Christmas, shut four wards for four months and cut operations by between 25 and 50 per cent to avert a cash crisis.

Guy's Hospital nearly 200 beds are closed. Waiting-lists in general surgery and medicine have risen by about half in three years. Most weeks at Guy's and Lewisham hospitals, someone who has waited perhaps months often finds his admission cancelled on the day because there is nowhere to put him. On some wards, some days, beds have more than one patient. A recuperating patient is turned out for the day to allow another one in, so that wards are running at over 100 per cent occupancy, a process known as "hot-bedding".

The tale is told of the patient who asked a passing surgeon for a bed bottle. He was told he was fit enough to walk to the toilet. "No fear," said the patient. "If I do that there'll be someone else in this bed by the time I get back."

At St Thomas's, where £2.5 million has to be saved this year, cuts are being considered that would remove several hundred specialized cases from the hospital's workload, cutting back on heart and plastic surgery operations, and reducing the number of cardiology patients. In addition, the hospital would close to routine surgery in August, reducing admissions by 1,000 and increasing surgery waiting lists by 17 per cent.

To a Londoner the tale of the health service looks like cuts, more cuts and worse to come. The situation is in fact more complex. But the budgets of London's hospitals — and particularly its dozen teaching hospitals — are under growing pressure in many different ways: national reallocation, regional reallocation, priority services and pressure on University Grants Committee and Medical Research Council spending.

Under the formula for redistributing spending from the relatively rich parts of the NHS to the poorer areas, London's hospitals (together with other districts in the four Thames regions, which cover the

capital and the home counties), are losing.

The London hospitals are in turn also losing money to the less well-served parts of the south east, and spending on their acute services is also having to be cut to develop local services for the mentally ill, the mentally handicapped and the elderly — an area where London's performance has long been poor.

In addition the teaching hospitals have already had to face University Grants Committee reductions which have removed the posts of lecturers who do much NHS service work besides teaching and research. Cuts of at least 2 per cent last year are to be followed by similar reductions this year and next, and money for research from the Medical Research Council has never been tighter. The University of London is warning bluntly that "the viability of the teaching institutions is being threatened".

The Government is aware of the growing inequality

The changes go back to 1976. Before that health service money was doled out on a basis that can be broadly characterized as "to those that have, more shall be given". From the foundation of the NHS in 1948 until 1976 the already large gap in health service spending per head of population between London and its environs and the rest of the country grew. London's population was and is falling. But decisions were taken that in retrospect can be seen as key mistakes which now contribute to the capital's problems. Instead of moving the all-powerful teaching hospitals like Charing Cross, the Royal Free and St George's to Southampton, Reading, Hull or almost anywhere but London, they were shifted just a few miles down the road, and rebuilt at vast expense.

Aware of the growing inequalities in health provision, the Labour government set up the Resource Allocation Working Party. The formula it devised — based broadly on population, weighted for age and sex, and using standard death rates as a crude measure of health service need —



Preventive measures: as waiting lists rise, beds all over London are kept empty to save money

'London can no longer be allowed to stand still while the rest of the NHS gets money to catch up'

has been used ever since to try and redistribute cash more fairly.

The RAWP formula was, however, conceived in an age of growth. The Government's figures may prove that health service spending has risen by 24 per cent above inflation since 1979, but the hospital and community services have experienced little if any real growth in spending power once NHS pay and price rises have been taken into account and allowance

made for the rising numbers of elderly. There is also a need for an extra 0.5 per cent of services a year to keep up with technological advances.

London can no longer be allowed to stand still while money goes to the rest of the NHS to allow it to catch up. For London, RAWP means cuts in spending. Change can be met only by greater efficiency and by cutting services that the gaining

districts are meant to be providing.

The scale of the change required is awesome. That London had (and still has) fat to cut compared with the rest of the NHS is not in question. Inner London was littered with small hospitals; costly to run, inefficient and under-occupied. In 1974 there were 26 hospitals in the East End in an area little more than four miles by six. Meanwhile, thousands of

patients a year were travelling 30 miles and more into London for routine operations because of lack of beds in their own areas.

The change that has already been achieved is impressive. Since 1979, when RAWP really began to bite, well over 3,000 acute hospital beds have closed in Greater London. Yet such has been the improvement in shorter lengths of stay, quicker turn-round, and more efficient use of beds and theatres that health ministers can claim significant increases in patients treated — 70,000 more inpatient cases than in 1978, 75,000 more day cases, 30,000 more outpatient attendances.

But the signs of strain are becoming apparent. Waiting-lists in Greater London grew by over 3,000 in the year to last September while elsewhere, in general, they fell as hospitals outside the capital also increased their efficiency. In south-west London all waiting-list admissions were cancelled for

The scale of the required changes will be awesome

several days last winter at a time when the weather was not bad and there were no obvious epidemics. London's Emergency Bed Service is finding it tougher to get hospitals to accept emergencies.

A key reason may well be that acute hospital services are going out of London faster than they are being replaced elsewhere in the Home Counties. In addition careful planning is being disrupted by the same mid-year, short-term crises that have faced all health authorities in recent years — the Lawson cuts of 1983, followed by the Government's failure to fully fund pay awards.

Coming on top of budgets that are already being reduced, the impact can be dire. Bloomsbury, for example, had to close services at the National Temperance and St Pancras Hospitals, the accident and emergency department at the Middlesex, and 97 beds at University College Hospital and the Middlesex — in each case earlier than planned — just to stay on budget.

Alasdair Liddell, Bloomsbury's general manager, says: "We see no evidence that the pressure on us is

slackening. Our suspicion is that our waiting-lists are growing longer and the queues out in Essex are not getting any shorter, because new services are not being provided on them as quickly as we are reducing them."

In addition there is a growing belief among some of London's general managers that the money which is going out of London to the Home Counties is being spent faster on priority services for the mentally ill and handicapped and the elderly than on providing acute services to replace those lost in London. Dr Stephen Jenkins, general manager at West Lambeth Health Authority, says: "To put it in an extreme way, we suspect the money we are losing is going into gold-plated lofts for geriatrics in the rolling green fields of Kent, not in replacing our acute services."

If the feeling growing in London is that the pace of change is becoming too quick, there is still much change to come. On current plans the district containing St Thomas's calculates that it has to lose another 200 beds and cut £18 million from its spending on acute services of £48 million over the next 10 years. A third of that is due to come from greater efficiency and a fair part of the savings will go into developing priority services locally. But St Thomas's is being asked to save from its spending on acute services more than is spent on the entire budget of Harrogate or Milton Keynes health authorities.

On Bloomsbury Health Authority's reading of the present plans, a district that since 1982 has cut its spending by £7.6 million, its beds by 330 (almost 20 per cent) and its staff by 1,500 while keeping up the number of patients it treated, faces a further reduction by 1993 of another 270 beds and a reduction of a minimum of £22 million on spending on hospital services of about £85 million.

Alasdair Liddell says: "I am not sure it is possible to cope with that kind of change at that pace without the wholesale destruction of important services."

But if the signs are that London is finding it increasingly difficult to cope, is the health service outside the capital benefiting?

TOMORROW

Chesterfield and Milton Keynes

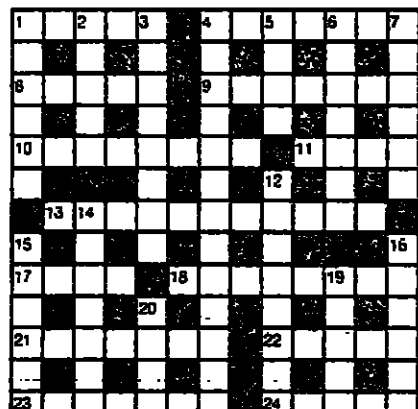
CONCISE CROSSWORD NO 948

ACROSS

- 1 Baffling question (5)
- 4 WW Prime Minister (7)
- 8 Chalk valley (5)
- 9 Obvious (7)
- 10 Ladder assault (6)
- 11 Not stereo (4)
- 13 Quicken musical (11)
- 17 Tense (4)
- 18 Square church (8)
- 21 Peewit (7)
- 22 Shilling state (5)
- 23 Hunters (7)
- 24 All (5)

DOWN

- 1 Parcel (6)
- 2 Impassive type (5)
- 3 Revolved (8)
- 4 Hornless Scots cattle (8,5)
- 5 Jest (4)



- 6 Freezing (7)
- 7 Potato stew (6)
- 12 Snake fence (8)
- 14 Shovel (7)
- 15 Engraving pen (6)
- 16 Cordially (6)
- 19 Progeny (5)
- 20 Fearful (4)

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A quiet night in Praga

In an unprecedented glimpse of the law in action behind the Iron Curtain, Roger Boyes joins the Polish police on night patrol on the streets of Warsaw



Night shift: reporter Roger Boyes with the police patrol van

The undressed buildings of Praga, pale and pockmarked by war, house the highest concentration of criminals in Warsaw. It is not Brixton or the Bronx, but it is tough. At dusk, a half-gloom settles on the long courtyards. The fuses and bulbs have been looted from the street lamps, and people lurch rather than walk, giving the impression that the whole district has been etherized. This is not far from the truth: in Praga over the past year all murderers, rapists and car thieves, 70 per cent of those involved in burglaries, and 65 per cent of muggers were under the influence of alcohol when they committed their crimes. And 95 per cent of the victims were drunk.

Wednesday should be a quiet night. It is not pay day or a popular saint's day — Józef, say, when everybody of that name gives a party — it is simply the middle of the week. At 7pm Captain Wojciech Hoffman, burly, a short military moustache, the gruffness of a city policeman, strides into the briefing room of his station on Cyril and Methodius Street. Two dozen patrolmen jump up from their desks. The captain reads out a list of stolen goods and missing people. Sooner or later most of the cassette recorders, sheepskins, Atari computers, car tyres and jewellery will turn up in Praga.

The criminal epicentre of Praga is the Bazaar Rozyczki, an open-air market in which, like a crooked Harrods, one can buy anything. Hot goods find their fences here, foreign currencies find their customers, rats find their pimps. The ripples spread outwards, engulfing two suburban railway stations that carry thousands of villagers in and out of Warsaw every day — easy picking, most of them, after a couple of drinks.

The equipment has been checked — magazines removed from revolvers, gas sprays displayed — and soon the patrol is under way. Sergeant Marian J. moustache like a hussar, quiet, and Sergeant Jan O. earnest, non-smoking. We look at the briefing folder. It reminds the policemen to check people with heavy baggage, parking places, street vendors and hooligans, and to make a note of any new anti-state slogans. Political graffiti is on the cobble is the martial law routine when slogans like "Solidarity Lives" were daubed at midnight and painted out by noon.

Sgt O delivers a summons to a witness. Over the radio:

has anybody got a light bulb? 7.45pm. Darwin Street number 7. An illegal alcohol still, a melina. We have been given a list of three melinas to raid.

The block is relatively modern, early Tower Hamlets, and the lift works. The sister of the distiller lets the police in. A baby cries from the kitchen-living-room. There is a bucket of potatoes in the hall. Mother emerges. "We are looking for Dariusz." "He's out, don't know when he'll be back. It's nothing serious, is it?" "Is he working?" "Not for the last two weeks." "You should persuade him to go back to work." "What can I do? I can't force him to work." She looks worried. The policeman is being charming, solicitous. Her boy is obviously in trouble. She promises to have a word with him. In the lift, Sgt O says there is a pattern: when the boy is out of work for longer periods, illegal work sales start to boom.

At 8.30pm we check on a work dodger. Able-bodied men have a duty to work under a parasitism law passed after martial law. The Catholic church leadership thought it was a way of cracking down on those who had been dismissed for political reasons, but there have been few such cases. Mainly it is a means to control the criminal underground. It is quite simply difficult to work full-time and be a safe-cracker or illegal distiller. Each identity card contains a work stamp; those without the stamp are suspect.

The dodger, who is also on the list of illegal distillers, is out. His mother is coldly polite. "He works now. In Brodno hospital." "He's calmed down a bit now, then, has he?" "Yes, yes." "Because we've been calling regularly, I suppose?" "No, I wouldn't say that." The woman wants us out.

Sgt O says later: "I check those people's documents and see dozens of work stamps, chopping and changing their jobs, and I think: 'How can we build socialism like that?'"

On the whole, night policemen like their job: it's more dangerous but less boring. Sgt J: "It's not bad. Same pay, but we get 48 hours off for a night on." The patrol has been told to watch the Elbro Café, the bar known as "Under the Bear", a children's playground, the new Praga Hotel and the back of the Musical High School — ill-lit sites where muggings are often simply a matter of sticking out a leg.

By 10pm we have checked out another absentee vodka distiller and a doorbell pest — "I'm looking for my girlfriend, aren't I? What do you mean she doesn't live here?" — and stopped a brawl at the Filipinka Café. It's all harmless enough. The restaurants and bars close early. Some workshops close before dusk to avoid the risk of the owner walking home in the dark with the day's takings. Routine fills

the dead hours: checking shops, especially a big food supermarket where alcohol is stocked. Sgt O: "After midnight you've got to reckon that 90 per cent of the people on the streets here are up to no good."

A few hours in the back of a police van and one becomes more suspicious than the policeman. Who is that woman walking a dog? Why are those men hanging around? Those kids laughing: check them, says my instinct. The policeman drive past. "It's a question of experience. Most people with nothing to fear move slowly."

At 12.50pm, by a bus shelter, it looks as if we may have found our first corpse. Face down, very cold. Sgt O feels the pulse. It's — SC outside, though deep into spring. He is alive but dead drunk.

A chain-smoking woman doctor decides that "he's sleeping too deeply" and takes him to hospital.

At 2 am a woman turns up in Cyril and Methodius Street. No shoes. No identity documents. Drunk. She says she has just been raped in one of the dark, gaping entrance ways. The man was the son of her friend. Sgt J snatches the cigarette from her mouth and lets her into the van.

Stalowa Street 13. Wooden floorboards, a smell, inexplicably, of caged animals, a shrine to the Virgin Mary, lit by a single light bulb. We bang on the door. Sgt J taps on the back window. After 15 minutes and a threat to batter the door down, the mother emerges. Inside it is dark, no electricity, no meter even, but the light of the shrine shows us something of the dirt.

The man, who is 30, denies everything until the police find the assaulted woman's shoes and her papers. He is allowed to put on a coat, is hauled off. His story: "I was taking her to a bus stop, had to drag her because she was so drunk. Then we got to a gateway and made love. She wanted to. Then I noticed that her shoes and bag were missing and went to search for them, and when I brought them back she was gone..." The police doctor confirms the woman had sex but finds no signs of violence. The man is put in a cell, complaining.

The night dribbles away. Sgt J checks through his final report. Abortive checks on vodka outlets, drunken drivers, a medical case, more drunks, a break-in, a brawl, a suspected rape — a quiet night in Praga.

Who'll pay the nuclear price?

Fifteen years ago Alvin Weinberg, one of the architects of atomic power, spoke of the "Faustian bargain" his fellow nuclear scientists had made with society. On the one hand, he said, they offered "an inexhaustible source of energy" which, when properly handled, is almost non-polluting. On the other: "The price we demand from society for this magical energy source is both vigilance and a longevity of our social institutions that we are quite unaccustomed to."

The radioactive gas cloud from Chernobyl is the clearest evidence, if not the first, that the price is too high.

The social institutions in question include those responsible for the regulation of the nuclear power industry: in the UK, the Nuclear Installations Inspectorate; in the USA, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission; and in the USSR, the State Committee for the Supervision of Safe Work in Nuclear Power. All three subscribe to the codes of practice and safety guidelines compiled by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), whose director-general, Dr Hans Blix, travelled to the Soviet Union from the agency's headquarters in Vienna last week.

The IAEA technical documents run to more than 2,000 pages, comprising five codes of

conduct and 55 safety guides. But they were completed only last year, and as far as the major nuclear powers were concerned they merely supplemented the procedures already in place.

Sharp contrasts exist between countries in the application of safety regulations. US industry has to meet absolute standards. In the UK, the process is closer to negotiation: safety inspectors respond to evidence submitted by the electricity generating boards, requesting additional information until they are satisfied.

The national organizations have the teeth of law, the IAEA is a paper tiger. Yet the Chernobyl disaster revealed a need for a degree of supranational intervention. The IAEA does have some global overview of nuclear power. A computer data base at the Vienna headquarters contains descriptions and histories of all the commercial reactors in the world with no declared military connexion. Three years ago, the IAEA

impressed on its member countries the hazards of "transboundary exposure", and a procedure was prepared for mutual aid and information exchange between neighbouring countries in emergencies. The belated invitation that took Dr Blix to Moscow was made in accordance with these plans. Until the member countries agree to

Sharp contrasts in safety regulations

give the organization the power to take initiatives, such delays are inevitable.

The IAEA's brief also includes curbing the proliferation of nuclear weapons via commercial applications of atomic energy. The object is to check that weapons-grade plutonium is not being produced clandestinely, and that enriched uranium is not being diverted for military use. The IAEA's calculations are based on an inventory of the nuclear material going into a reactor with a record of the time when it came out and the conditions under which the plant was operated through the intervening period.

Excluded from inspection among the 100 members are the military reactors of the nuclear weapons states, who have also insisted on exemption for a few commercial installations. These include Chernobyl and the British reactor at Calder Hall.

Verification of the safety of design, the quality of construction and operator training and the rigour of procedures for handling waste is mandatory for all civil reactors — except in the nuclear weapons states, which could only be included if they were prepared to relinquish a degree of sovereignty. There is little room to doubt the possible penalty if the price is not paid.

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Amazons in the career jungle

Women who make it to the top are still a rarity in Britain, but five who have talk to Andrew Duncan about their rewards — and regrets — in the first of a two-part series

Who are Britain's most successful women? Two are immediately obvious — the Queen and Mrs Thatcher — and a few are a ubiquitous presence on government committees and up-market chat shows. A book on successful American and British women, published this week, *The Business Amazons*, illustrates 100 cases of women who got to the top.

"Once you are recognized, you are used as a specimen over and over again," says Dame Mary Warnock, whose opinions and presence are thought desirable.

"I was put on a government list by Peter Shore, simply by chance because I knew his wife, and now I keep being pulled out. There must be thousands of women who can do these things just as well."

In fact there are not — so far. Although 9.5 million women now work only a minute proportion are high fliers. Some use similar props to

their upwardly mobile male colleagues — "power" lunches, large offices, formidable desks, male secretaries — but in a year when American women for the first time held more professional jobs than men it is unusual to find British women who have yet achieved real influence or success in their various fields.

"A certain amount of publicity for those who have will wake people up to the fact that women can do things," says Kate Mortimer, the first woman elected to the main board of N.M. Rothschild, the merchant bank.

I spoke to her, to Lady Warnock and to eight more women who have reached the pinnacle of their careers. Six are unmarried at the moment. Two have never been married. Four have children. Not one has been married twice. The only proper conclusion about the effect of their careers on their private lives are those drawn from what they say themselves.

ENTREPRENEUR

Name: Steve Shirley
Age: 52
Job: Founder and managing director of F International Computer Software Group
Salary: £75,000

In 1962, awaiting the birth of her child, Stephanie Shirley found it impossible to obtain part-time work that matched her skills as a mathematician. She shortened her name for easier access to a male-dominated world — "I had to assemble to get through the door" — and started what is now one of Britain's largest computer software companies.

"An entrepreneur like me really has a single-minded desire to achieve so I lead a life that other people might find distasteful."

"A sense of humour has got me through all sorts of situations where others might have pulled out a handkerchief and wept. People are still sometimes surprised that I'm a woman and, because F International is an immense success story, some are scared of me."

"Many women do not present themselves as well as



Steve Shirley

their capabilities demand. As a boss I am difficult, demanding, irrational and impossible. I look on myself as a gardener — I grow people, and encourage their skills, confidence and ability to cope. I try to be a role model to younger women, although I've only done this for the past couple of years because it takes energy from the business. I tell students, "If you want to be a millionaire you can do it — but you have to commit yourself."

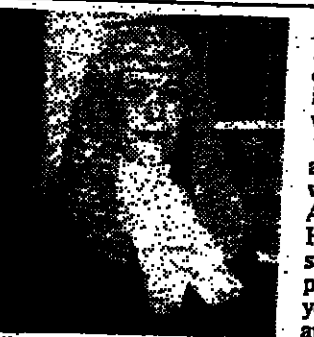
"A lot of people forget that the so-called sacrifices are made equally by men who get to the top — they lose the odd wife en route, and things like that. My husband (a physicist) thinks life is very good with me. He always had his own career and he didn't even notice when I began to earn more than him. It all goes into one pot."

LAWYER

Name: Anna Carnow
Age: 50
Job: QC
Salary: "I doubt that it is possible for a silk in my field to top the six figure mark"

She passed her bar finals when she was 20 and for the last 14 years was a Treasury prosecutor, and then the first woman to be appointed senior Crown prosecutor at the Central Criminal Court. She is now back in Chambers. In 1981 she married Judge Neil Denison; it was her first marriage.

"When I was called to the Bar in 1957 I never intended to practise and in my early days there was enormous prejudice against women. I was so terrified of having to appear in Court that I locked myself in



Anna Carnow

the lavatory whenever a dock brief was coming up so they couldn't find me and say, 'Here's your chance, Miss Carnow. £2,456.6d and see how you go'."

"I started bit by bit, but one was overruled by men who came to the Bar much later. I accepted the overweening

prejudice as part of life, and I'm certain it would have been counter-productive to behave in the strident fashion of women's libbers."

"When I was first appointed a Treasury counsel in 1972, I was terrified and I told the Attorney-General, Sir Michael Havers: 'You must understand I have to do the shopping and washing as well as your work'. Then, when I was appointed to the Old Bailey five years later, it seemed logical to accept. I found it hurtful, although nothing to do with being a woman, last year when the Attorney decided that I was among the pieces of dead wood he wanted to prune. Now I wish I'd made the change years ago."

"Owing to various factors, I haven't had children and I think I may regret it."

POP STAR

Name: Sade
Age: 26
Job: Singer
Salary: "I haven't a clue. I'm not counting and I know I don't have to worry"

Helen Folasade Adu, daughter of an English nurse and a Nigerian university lecturer, was brought up in Holland-on-Sea, Essex. She studied fashion, and began singing when a friend asked her to join a group — "I was tinted, wore a leather mini-skirt and looked as if I could dance — that's all you need." In 18 months, her first two albums have sold 12 million copies and in February 1986 she won a Grammy award from the American record industry as best new artist of the year. The following

month, exhausted, she curtailed a concert in Frankfurt, amid lurid rumours about her private life.

"I was successful very quickly, and didn't expect it. Now I'm constantly under pressure. The British Press seems to dislike success, and however much you try not to care, you get fed up when you're going out with has been timing you with a Greek masseuse. Former boyfriends are offered money to tell stories about me, and sometimes I think I'm going to read about myself in 'Naked Baby In Heroin Lesbian Death Tryst'. If journalists were exterminated, life would be fine."

"Luckily, I haven't had to use my sexuality and femininity to succeed. I'm not a girly girl. And I was never interested in

making money. If the band weren't my friends, I would have said 'That's it' and given up. It's too much to have to cope with the entire change in the way you are viewed by acquaintances. You feel constantly under scrutiny — it's like having a birthmark. Then there are the physical pressures of touring, and personal problems — my father died last year, and Stuart's (Matthewman, co-songwriter) mother has just died."

"Last year was miserable, but I know how lucky I am. I will never sit and feel sorry for myself. There is nothing greater than creating something that other people enjoy, and without an audience we are nothing. Sometimes I wish it hadn't happened, but if I was going to crack up, I would have done so already."

Where have all the slobs gone?

Only a few Bunnies' cars will droop at the news that the circulation of *Playboy* magazine has dropped from 7.2 million in 1972 to a current 4.2 million.

If *Playboy* carries on self-destructing, it could prove a great convenience all round. Those of us trying to buy a birthday card and a bar of chocolate at the newsagents will not have to fight our way past men with nothing better to do than stare glassily at the magazine rack.

Even better, *Playboy's* demise would put an end to all those late-night discussions about whether women who take off all their clothes are victims of exploitation or smart little clever-clogs who have seen a way out of the typing pool and grabbed a man-sized slice of financial independence.

The New Woman has been blamed for the declining sales of the so-called "sophisticated" men's magazines, which must be quite a feather in her cap. The New Woman's lack of femininity has often been blamed for the end of gallantry as we used to know it: men walking right around the car to open the front passenger seat for you or insisting on carrying your package which contains nothing heavier than a pair of tights and a tub of yoghurt.

So how nice if an improvement in men's manners can be put down to her. Somehow or other, she has let it be known that she does not consider it very polite for men to read "sophisticated" magazines and furthermore that impolite men are not the least bit fanciable.

That is the good news. Now for the bad. The decline of the old-style men's magazine has spawned a batch of new-style glossies for gentlemen, and I am not sure that the change has been for the better. According to *Madia Week*, what men now demand from their monthly reading matter is not a double-page spread of someone's silicon injections but advice on "how to dress, how to talk to your tailor, how to tie a bow-tie, shop for clothes..." These new magazines aim "at a successful but still aspiring Yuppie audience, anxious to dine in the right restaurants, choose the correct wine, and tie their tie properly" (my italics).

What on earth is this tie fixation all about? After making toast it is just about the easiest thing in the world. But tie-tying has evidently become



PENNY PERRICK

a sort of male initiation rite; it is imperative to undergo it before you can lead the good life of right restaurants and correct wines.

Here it comes again, from a reader of *GQ* (*Gentlemen's Quarterly*) this time: "Do I wear my bow-tie in front or behind a wing-tip collar? Can I wear tan shoes with a navy suit? How can I stop my silk pocket square sliding down? Should I fasten the last button on a three-piece suit?"

There is a dreadful escapism in all this. To worry about whether your handkerchief is going to stay put is a fairly extraordinary anxiety to cling to in the face of nuclear disasters and international terrorism. Is style about to become a refuge for men whose lives are more than they can cope with? Will they retreat to the bedroom for a spot of tie-practice, just as their fathers slunk off to the pub when their wives were in a foul temper or the lawnmower needed fixing?

I could accept this sudden burgeoning of interest in fashion if it had not become so obsessive. But men are incapable of acquiring a mild interest in anything. Look what happens when they take up cooking: exquisite dishes all calling for bain-maries and salamanders until you would give your soul for a plate of timed tomato soup.

The outcome is easy to foresee. When every man on earth has learnt how to tie his tie, button his suit and display his handkerchief to the nth degree of perfection, every woman on earth will feel a twinge of longing for that extinct breed whose lapsels were sprinkled with cigarette ash, whose socks collapsed around their ankles and who made uncouth noises of appreciation as they read *Playboy*.

Change things for good.



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Lady Warnock: "If I had my life over I would go into commerce or advertising"

SPORTSWOMAN



Name: Lachada Green
Age: 32
Job: Eventing
Salary: £20,000, from directorships.

She won the first of her record six Badminton titles at 19, has been European champion twice and is current world champion — a title she cannot regain this month in Australia as her horse, Regal Realm, is injured. She lives with her husband David, an international rider, and their one-year-old son, Freddie.

"The principal problem has to be money. David and I both have five horses (each costing about £7,000 a year to maintain) and we had to tramp the streets looking for sponsorship."

SR International, a direct marketing group, has supported us since 1983, and this year our budget is £65,000. There is a danger that you become so desperate for a sponsor that you will do anything, including running a horse you shouldn't. But SR have been absolute bricks about the world championship.

"I always thought I'd marry a rich husband, but I didn't,

so when Freddie was born, I reckoned I'd have to earn some serious money.

"When I was a kid, I didn't dare have ambition because I never won anything. After my first success at Badminton I was totally mesmerized, and everything went wrong for the next 18 months. At 21 I was insecure that I decided to give up if I made a muck of the next event. Thank God, it went all right."

"Until I met David it was a long, hard, lonely trail. It would be jolly hard for a marriage to survive with someone who wasn't totally involved in the same thing. This is a truly unisex sport, and it must be hard for David to accept that the bird who shares the same patch is doing better than him. But he's learnt to cope and I don't think he's jealous. It comes down to experience. I've been at it 10 years longer than him — and we feel that if one of us is doing well that's better than neither of us."

which is perfectly true, and I think she resents me for it. She was pretty difficult to live with when she was 18, and I still don't know her very well.

My eldest son is an extremely successful musician, but he was born middle-aged. My next one is a civil servant in the Department of the Environment, and he thinks he had a terrible childhood. But then he was a terrible child. They are a fairly eccentric bunch, but I think they are wonderful. Certainly the great thing about having treated them rather badly when they were small is that they are now devoted to each other. They are good to Geoffrey and me, but they do regard us as unlike real parents.

"In the early days of our marriage, it was Geoffrey who really kept my nose to the grindstone when I said it was all too much. Marriage would have been difficult if he wanted a conventional life with a little woman to warm his suppers. But he had been horrified by his mother, who was very sweet tempered but a totally subordinate figure devoted to her husband. Geoffrey could never have married someone who has going to adopt that role."

"It's really rather nice now that he's in Oxford and I'm here. We both liked being by ourselves. He loathes my untidiness — that, and my scruffiness — are the things that might have broken up our marriage — so he can bustle around at home in Oxford tidying up. Two weekends together are quite fun. It's an agreeable sort of life."

ACADEMIC

Name: Mary Warnock
Age: 62
Job: Mistress of Girton College, Cambridge
Salary: Around £25,000

Lady Warnock and her husband, Geoffrey, whom she married at 25 when they both secured Oxford fellowships in philosophy, have combined the domestic achievement of bringing up two sons and three daughters with the unique academic double of becoming heads of Oxford colleges (he is principal of Hertford). All but one of the children were born conveniently during vacations — "I'm proud I didn't have to take time off," Lady Warnock says.

She and her husband meet at weekends in Wiltshire, where they have a cottage. She was made a life baroness and a DBE for her work on Whitehall committees, including the 1984 inquiry into test tube babies.

"If I had my life again I would go into commerce or advertising, but I'm stuck with what I've got. Not bad, but terribly predictable. I notice with despair and irritation in the Lords that, apart from Lady Young, women are not supposed to know about foreign policy or legal matters. It's always the caring subjects — children, education and health. Then I look at myself and realize I wouldn't have a hope in hell of saying anything interesting about foreign policy. I regret that."

"The lowest point in my career was undoubtedly when the children were small and I had to write lectures to keep up as a Fellow of the college. I can hardly bear to read my diaries. Everything turned on no one getting ill and nannies not leaving."

"I was a good mother, in the sense that I really like babies and never got bored with them — things get difficult when they're about 13. But successful women do have to sacrifice their children to some extent. Mine had a pretty rough time, and I regret it when I look at other people's families. My eldest daughter thinks she was dragged up by a lot of nannies."

The Business American by Leah Hart is published by Andre Deutsch on May 15 at £9.95

WEDNESDAY

Part two — five fly high, from the City to the cinema

THE TIMES DIARY

Partners again

The new Labour leader of Camden council is to be Ken Livingstone's girl friend, Kate Allen, who was elected from a shortlist of three on Saturday. One of the first people she will meet at the town hall this morning will be the council's highly-paid policy adviser, John McDonnell — sacked as deputy GLC leader by the Labour group last March after a spectacular fall-out with Livingstone. McDonnell publicly attacked Livingstone for betraying party policy in setting a legal rate. Livingstone, in turn, complained that McDonnell had "split the group, split the party, opened our flank to attack from the media, and set back the whole rate-capping campaign". So should McDonnell start looking for another job? Not at all, Livingstone told me yesterday. "John and I have been working well recently. Our mutual aims are more important than our rows, and we have both been working towards a GLC in exile. You only have to look at the Wilson-Callaghan relationship to understand what I'm driving at."

Tower power

Liberal campaigners for proportional representation could be forgiven for harbouring second thoughts after the party won the London borough of Tower Hamlets in the local government elections. Thanks to the archaic and oft-criticized "first past the post" system, they beat Labour by one seat, despite polling fewer votes. The same archaic etc system allowed local Alliance leader Jim Boyd, to scrape back into his seat at Bexley, south of the river, when — after three recounts had given his Tory rival exactly the same number of votes — they held a draw and Boyd won.

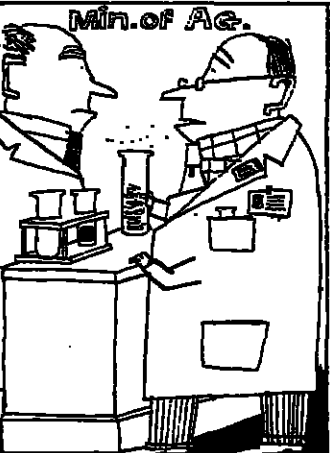
Wrong address

Young Tory hopeful Marc-Henri Glendening should not have been too surprised by his thumping rejection by the Hackney South and Shoreditch electorate in last week's ILEA elections. The former chairman of the Federation of Conservative Students set about canvassing the rock-solid Labour constituency with gusto. It was only after a concerted spell of leafleting that he realized he was stomping the wrong area. "I did a bit of Hackney North and a bit of Islington by accident," he admits. "I was about 200 leaflets adrift — not the difference between winning and losing". He ended up 15,000 votes behind Labour.

Scorch scotch

Another Oxford tradition has gone up in flames. Oriel has banned the "burning of the boats" ceremony, in which rowers turned Viking in a dangerous victory celebration after the annual Torpids regatta. Last term, one of Oriel's first female undergraduates was singled.

BARRY FANTONI



"Thank heavens, it's only acid rain"

Bear cop

According to this week's *Police* magazine, some London magistrates have complained that officers have been attending court wearing goliwog badges. The complaint clearly confused the deputy assistant commander of Six Area, Metropolitan Police, which stretches from Heathrow to Kensington. He has banned the wearing of Rupert Bear brooches, which policemen buy to finance holidays for families of murdered RUC officers.

McCarthyism

Professor Colin McCarthy, a former economic adviser to the South African government, who was due to do a summer research stint at the London School of Economics, has cancelled his visit at the last minute. Head of economics at the African Studies Centre, McCarthy was invited to Britain for six weeks by the economics department of the LSE, and was due to arrive this month. The invitation, as I reported in March, caused a furore among students, who saw it as tacit LSE approval of apartheid. The LSE maintained that McCarthy had merely been seconded to Pretoria's industry department in 1977 and that a paper had "pointed out a few uncomfortable home truths" to the regime. However, clearly perturbed by the strength of the reaction, McCarthy dispatched a curt missive to the LSE cancelling his visit. An LSE spokesman tells me it had been made unequivocally clear to McCarthy that the invitation still stands.

PHS

When privilege provokes

by Bernard Levin

I have always maintained that this country gets the House of Commons it deserves. The House reflects the public at large, not only, not even mainly, in the House's party proportions, but in attitudes, understanding, character and intelligence. Those who select candidates for Parliament must, to a very great extent, pick people like themselves; how could selection committees work other than by the unconscious recognition of the qualities with which they are most familiar? And with what qualities could they be more familiar than their own?

Thus, there are drunks in the House of Commons because there are drunks in the country; scoundrels there because scoundrels here; on the same basis adulterers, spies, bobbies, dog-lovers, sufferers from halitosis, amnesia or piles, foot-fetishists, wife-beaters and bastards; claustrophobics, hysterics and achromatopsics; even, I dare say, a psychopath or two. But there is no reason to believe that the proportion of any of these to the whole House of Commons is greater than in the country as a whole, and much evidence that it is not.

Then why is it that the members of the House of Commons Committee of Privileges, who ever they may be like as individuals, invariably make asses of themselves when they act collectively? Leave out the two members of the committee who are

appointed ex officio — the Leader of the House (because such matters clearly fall within his responsibility) and the Attorney General pro tem (to ensure that justice shall at least be rendered incomprehensible and if possible excluded altogether from the proceedings) and glance down the list. I know a good many of them; I have dined with some, taken wine with others, carpentered on matters of mutual agreement with yet others, even played bridge with one. And I swear by the shade of Simon de Montfort that, taken singly, they could not, would not, put their hands to the 26 paragraphs of folly which compose the Report from the Committee of Privileges dealing with the publication by this newspaper of the leaked draft report of the Select Committee on Radioactive Waste.

I assume that my readers will have read at least the summaries of this business. Summarized even further, what happened was as follows. The leak led to a hunt for the "culprit", in the course of which all the MPs on the select committee (the suggestion that the leak might have come from a member of the committee's staff can be safely ignored) were obliged to sign a document denying responsibility; all signed, at least

one of them fraudulently. Because the select committee was embarrassed by the presence of a gossip among their number, and even more embarrassed by their inability to discover and expose the leaker, the Committee of Privileges (with the honourable exception of Anthony Wedgwood Benn), decided that the recipient of the leak, and the newspaper which employs him, should be punished.

And they do not know how the country jeers and laughs at them for it. My memory of privilege decisions goes back more than 30 years, and I know of none which enhanced the dignity of Parliament much less the committee itself. The most instructive, in this regard, was the Garry Allighan case; it concerned an MP who had written an article revealing, to the surprise of nobody outside Parliament itself, that some of his fellow MPs leaked stories for money. It subsequently transpired that he had himself done what he was waxing so indignant about, and he was expelled from the House. But it was very clear that he was expelled more for his indiscreet revelations than for his taking of bribes.

And so exquisitely complete is the committee's unconsciousness of the absurdity of their entire proceedings that they handed

down their judgment, condemning an honest journalist and his newspaper for revealing matters relating to the dangers of radioactivity, while the whole world was still shaking with the implications of the Chernobyl disaster. The judgment of the Committee of Privileges is based partly on their own pique (*The Times* had earlier published a leak from the Privileges Committee itself), partly on a vicious sense of *amour propre* on behalf of their colleagues on the select committee, partly on the frustration caused by their failure to find which MP had leaked the information, partly on their guilty knowledge that every constituent part of our political life is weaker than any colander in any kitchen and that the most comprehensively perforated is the Cabinet, and most of all on their underestimation of the lack of regard for them among the public and their misunderstanding of the causes of that lack.

The Report of the Committee of Privileges is not itself final. The House of Commons has to accept or reject it. I trust that there are enough sensible men and women in the House, untainted by their colleagues' madness, to reject it. While they are doing so, they might with advantage tell the Committee of Privileges to take itself less seriously, or behave itself more seriously. Or better still, both.

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After the voting, Bruce Anderson reports on what's wrong at Smith Square

Why Tories too must feel the Tebbit lash



Tebbit: slow off the mark — and now little time

But some of Tebbit's more informed critics believe that how ever favourably disposed he was towards civil servants, he needs to take a much tougher line at Central Office. They wish that in his dealings with the Smith Square staff he would try to live up more to the abrasive image he has acquired for his comments on the Labour Party.

There is a problem here. In politics, it is a good idea to have nice men saying nasty things, and vice versa. That was always going to be the difficulty about the Tebbit chairmanship. In public at least, he is a hard man; he enjoys nothing better than going on the attack and laying into his political opponents.

But those who are criticizing him for rancourousness are not

namby-pambies. Still less are they suggesting that there is no place in Tory propaganda for attacks on Labour. They just feel that Tebbit is getting the tone wrong, and that if the Tories try to claim that Neil Kinnock is a blend of Michael Foot and Bernie Grant, this will help him to project himself in the mould of a Harold Wilson or James Callaghan.

John Biffen in particular believes that there was a danger of the electorate swallowing a false syllogism: the Tories say Labour is in the grip of extremists; this is not true; therefore Labour must have good policies. Biffen thinks that the Tories should be concentrating on the economic implications of Labour's policies for spending, taxation, and intervention, and on the damaging effect these would

have on the nation's economic prospects.

He points out that there is now a great deal of common ground between Labour and the Alliance — but that this gives the government its opportunity. It should be broadcasting its achievements in controlling inflation and in spreading ownership while pointing out that its opponents stand only for another instalment of past failures.

Of course, this disagreement between Biffen and Tebbit is another instalment of the radicals versus conservatives debate. The Prime Minister wants to bring all that to an end by producing a new policy document which will restate the fundamentals of Conservative policy and philosophy for the next few years. She remembers the success of a similar exercise — *The Right Approach of 1976* — in resolving earlier disputes. The new version will attempt to soften the party's message on health, education, and pensions, taking the theme "Services, Yes, Waste, No", while restating the basics of Thatcherite economics.

However, a discreet but vigorous argument is now taking place as to who should oversee this document. Tebbit naturally wants control; Mrs Thatcher is minded to entrust it to Leon Brittan. Tebbit believes this would indicate that the Prime Minister lacks confidence in him.

In addition, the next manifesto will inevitably draw heavily on this document. Earlier this year, when Tebbit tried to assert sole control over the drafting of the manifesto, Mrs Thatcher rebuffed him. He feels that if he does not oversee the new document he may end up with no control at all.

This dispute will probably be resolved by the obvious compromise, under which Brittan would do most of the drafting under Tebbit's chairmanship. But the fact that this compromise has not yet been arrived at is indicative of the present strained relations between Mrs Thatcher and her party chairman. She thinks that he is not getting on with it; he feels that she is not giving him enough support.

The next three months are probably the most crucial period of Norman Tebbit's chairmanship. Even allowing for circumstances, he has made a slower start than most observers expected. He is about to try to rectify that — and as there is no prospect of Mrs Thatcher replacing him, it is crucial for the Tories' prospects that he succeeds.

© Times Newspapers, 1986.

Many winners, one loser, in Dhaka poll

Dhaka As the dust begins to settle after Bangladesh's violently contested general election it is possible to discern some of the real winners and losers. The most obvious winner is General Hussain Muhammad Ershad, the chief martial law administrator and self-proclaimed president. Despite the terror tactics and the ballot rigging so shamelessly inflicted on the voters, his regime has actually held elections, and the country will have a parliament. Ershad has thus established some kind of democratic credentials for himself, democracy with defects, as everyone will agree, is better than no democracy at all.

Further, it seemed likely yesterday that his Jatiyo party would command a majority in the new Assembly, despite the fact that it was formed only five months ago. The latest figures show that he might just fall short of an overall majority, or might just achieve one after the re-polling ordered in 21 constituencies. He will not achieve the two-thirds majority needed to put through constitutional amendments, but he will certainly be able to add a number of independents to his party's total. Twenty-four independents have already been elected and there could be another six after re-polling; at least half of these, it is estimated, will side with Jatiyo.

A senior party figure told me at the weekend that six have already signed papers indicating their support. A number of the independents are in fact disappointed

Jatiyo men who were denied party endorsement at the time of nomination and who will certainly be available to the party now.

A curiosity of the election in this overwhelmingly Muslim state is that the MPs will elect 30 women to join them. Given the anticipated outcome, it seems certain that all 30 will be Jatiyo supporters, so converting the government's majority from minimal to comfortable.

President Ershad told me last week that he would need only a simple majority in the Assembly to pass a bill turning the acts of the martial law regime into statutory law. A number of constitutional authorities disagree and insist that those acts which changed the constitution will need to be treated as constitutional amendments. For this purpose Ershad may well be able to cajole sufficient support from the minor parties to get his two-thirds majority. The Jamaat-i-Islami and similar parties could no doubt be dragged into his camp for a single occasion. "If that doesn't give us enough votes we shall buy the rest", a Jatiyo leader cheerfully admitted.

One martial law regulation needing a two-thirds majority will be the decentralization of justice, which has brought the courts closer to the people. In this way Ershad's assumption of power and his subsequent actions will be endorsed and he will be able to hold a presidential election to further consolidate his democratic credentials.

Despite its apparent defeat at the polls, the Awami League, the



Ershad: now for the legalization of martial law edicts

main opposition party, has also achieved something. In the first place it is a major victory to have forced the military dictatorship to hold party-based elections at all. Secondly, even though the party was not allowed to win, it did take a large number of seats and its leaders will now be in a position of power and patronage. The Awami message was carried to every corner of the country during the election campaign and will now be heard in parliament.

Other lesser parties may also count their blessings. The Communist Party, for instance, which had not won a parliamentary seat since 1954, when East Bengal was part of Pakistan — and then only in one of the seats reserved for Hindus — now holds five. Its success may be attributed to two factors. First, because it fought in alliance with the Awami League and under the same symbol of a boat, it benefited from Awami's built-in support in the countryside. Secondly, it was able to concentrate its workers in those seats allocated to it under the electoral alliance.

The principal loser seems to be the Bangladesh Nationalist Party, led by Begum Khaleda Zia, widow of General Zia ur-Rahman, the assassinated former president. The BNP declined to enter the fray, partly perhaps because the government did not offer it sufficient funds and also because a number of its leaders have criminal convictions and were disbarred from standing; the government refused to offer them indulgence. As a result, the BNP has no seats in the new assembly.

No matter how loudly the BNP may cry that the parliament is a sham, it has so far failed to mobilize mass support. The general strike which it called before the election was essentially a flop and it is suffering another round of repression. Most of the leadership is still in Dhaka's central jail, despite the release of Begum Zia from house arrest.

Michael Hamlyn

Anne Sofer

From canvass to canvas

Last Christmas I was given a present which has proved both useful and inspiring — a desk diary illustrated by magnificent reproductions of details from Impressionist paintings. Left open by the telephone for use as an all-purpose shopping list, memo pad and engagement record, it has week by week recorded the humdrum of life opposite a fragment of the sublime, a piece of yellow Sisley sky, say, or a couple of stardust Van Gogh irises.

By cruel chance, local election week featured a picture which could not have been more provocatively inappropriate. It was a detail of a painting by Berthe Morisot called "Under the Lilac Trees of Maurecourt". Every time I came in — phoning in a press release five minutes before deadline, dashing off a last-minute letter, snatching a quick bite before an evening meeting — there it was, teasing me. A tranquil female figure, in black dress and white bonnet, graceful hands working over a scrap of embroidery, sits in a deep pool of shade under a tree. Next to her are two little girls, square in their pinafores, with flushed chubby cheeks; behind them a brilliant sun-lit lawn splashed with daisies.

It is a powerful evocation of a world of happy domesticity, of long peaceful summer days in the garden, as far removed as it is possible to be from the political hurly burly. "What a fool you are," it kept saying, "this is what life is really about". The only political demand one could imagine this woman making would be that the country should somehow be, as the prayer book puts it, "Godly and quietly governed" while her tranquillity is left undisturbed. Certainly an election canvasser, leaning over the gate and shouting "Good morning madam; I hope we can count on your support on Thursday", would jar the atmosphere horribly.

A further cause of mental uneasiness was that the whole pose, countenance and occupation of this woman conveyed what these days is condemned as gross sex stereotyping. There she sits, placidly sewing and minding the children, looking thoroughly absorbed and at peace with the world... you can imagine the undermining effect on a modern political woman in mid-campaign.

But it has provoked me into finding out a little more about Berthe Morisot's life and work. She was born in 1841 into a comfortable professional, middle-class Parisian family. She studied with Corot, became a close friend of Manet (whose brother, she married) and later of Renoir, Degas and the poet Mallarmé. Most of her drawings and paintings are of women and children; in particular there are innumerable pictures of her daughter and favourite niece as they grew up together — mostly sketches captured from daily life rather than posed portraits: children making mud pies and catching butterflies; playing the piano, reading, chatting. All are full of maternal

tenderness. Her private life, according to her biographers, was singularly undisturbed and calm. Yet the extraordinary thing is that her work caused a storm. One of her early drawing teachers was so alarmed by her talent that he took her father aside and said: "Your daughter will become a painter. Do you realize what that means? In your environment of the upper middle class this will be a revolution. I might almost say a catastrophe."

In the 1870s she exhibited with the other Impressionists in Paris: "Five or six fanatics, one of whom is a woman, a collection of unfortunate talents by the folly of submitting as they were described by the *Figaro* art critic. "What a terrifying spectacle is this of human vanity stretched to the verge of dementia... there is also a woman in the group, as is the case with all famous gangs. Her name is Berthe Morisot, and she is interesting to behold. In her feminine grace is preserved amidst the frenzy of a mind in delirium."

Seen in the context of contemporary preoccupation, one would expect such a person — the only woman in a man's world, exposed to this offensive searing pseudogallantry from the artists' establishment — to be something of a feminist. But her work conveys no resentment at all of "women's lot". Rather the contrary. "The truth is that our value lies in feeling," she wrote. "In intuition, in our vision that is subtler than that of men, and we can accomplish a great deal provided that affection, pedantry and sentimentalism do not come to spoil everything." Who, these days, would see these three particular dangers as the main obstacle to women's achievement?

She was lucky, of course, to be an artist: one of the few vocations to which women, however grudgingly, have always been given access. Yet her great charm is that even while she operated on equal terms with men she none the less drew her inspiration almost entirely from the experience of women, working on that "subtler vision", without self-doubt or competitiveness. It is an enviable resolution of the gender war that is difficult to emulate in other spheres of activity.

To those readers who were expecting from me this morning an assessment of the current political scene on the Monday after I apologise, I have calculated that only the most insatiable appetites will not have been gorged by the weekend media coverage, and in any case we will all be returning to it soon enough. Meanwhile I commend to all my weary fellow campaigners in all political parties, female and male, successful and defeated, a browse through the drawings and letters of Berthe Morisot. "One dashes about and fusses," she wrote to Mallarmé: "One no longer realizes that nothing is more important in life than a couple of hours stretched out on a hammock."

The author is a member of the SDP national council.

moreover... Miles Kingston

Strumming my old sitar

People Who Do Very Unusual Jobs Indeed. No 27: the man who chooses the music for Radio 4

It is sometimes assumed that Radio 4 is all words, talk and chat, with never a note of music to be heard. But perceptive listeners may have noticed that a talk on, for instance, China, opens with a gong and a burst of Chinese music. Unperceptive listeners may have noticed the same. In fact all listeners, whatever their perception level, must have noticed the slight seismic shock caused by the Chinese gong-bo at the start of any programme on China.

The man responsible is Barry Gramwell, Musical Atmosphere Co-ordinator for Radio 4. What exactly does the title mean? "Like all BBC titles, absolutely nothing," grins Barry. "Basically my job is to wake up the listener with a jolt, give him a musical clue as to where we're going, then hit him over the head with a bit of music every three minutes to keep him awake. We have to cater for late joiners as well."

"Well, say someone has switched on Radio 4 five minutes after a programme has begun. And say the programme is based on reminiscences of old colonial hands from some far-flung part of the Empire, as most programmes seem to be these days. Well, the listener wants to know immediately where he is being taken to, and I can do that by having soft ethnic music playing in the background of all the interviews. If they are reminiscing about the West Indies, then I'll have steel bands banging away. If it's a particularly dull programme, I'll raise the volume and try and drown the speaker."

Barry's knowledge of world music is encyclopaedic. In other words, he has got it all from an encyclopaedia, and it is pretty superficial. But he claims that a deep knowledge of music would only baffle the listener.

If a Scottish producer comes to me and wants to do a programme on Perth, the clever thing to do would be to give him a snatch from Bizet's "Faire Maid of Perth". The only snag is that nobody would recognize it. So I

give him a snatch of a reel. I'd probably give him the reel called "The Duke and Duchess of Perth", but that's an in-house joke.

"Let's pretend you're a producer coming to me with a French documentary programme. Give me the subject of the programme, and I'll immediately tell you the music I'd suggest. Go on."

"All right. A biography of General de Gaulle."

"French accordion music."

"Paris in the Belle Epoque."

"Accordion music."

"The French economy under Mitterrand's government."

"French accordion music! Yes, I know it sounds obvious, but believe me, that's the only kind of French music the average listener recognizes. Ironically, accordion music is tending to lose popularity in France. I wonder if we don't have more of it on Radio 4 than on French radio."

Doesn't this all make Radio 4's musical inroads a bit predictable?

"To a certain extent yes, though there's always room for a bit of playing around, like recently when we had a programme on French Indo-China. We introduced that with a Chinese gong — followed by French accordion music."

What about the tendency of programmes like *Start the Week* and *Midweek* to have guest musicians who kick off the programme with a burst of live music?

Barry's face darkened. "You mean, when there's a sort of waiting noise for hours and hours and Richard Baker then says, 'Today we have with us three vicars who play musical saws?' Or Libby Purves says, 'Here in the studio we have the world's first massed rubber band ensemble?'"

"You're right — this is a pernicious development. It totally baffles the listener. I could understand it if they had accordionists or Chinese gong players, but..."

His momentary depression cleared when a producer stuck his head in the door and said: "Barry, I've got a series of talks coming up on nuclear tests in Arizona."

Barry leaned over and jabbed a button. Banjo 'n' fiddle bluegrass music filled the room.

"No problem, old boy. Banjo when you are."



1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone: 01-481 4100

THE CANDID FRIEND

Mr John Biffen is a rare politician. He is reputed to tell the truth and to have little personal ambition. It is still remembered how in January 1980 he promised the country "three years of unparalleled austerity" when the party line was to be not quite so specific. His detached donnish manner, his uncertain health during the years of opposition, his iconoclasm towards many a cherished Tory icon, have combined to keep him off the lists when MPs play "follow my leader".

He is, therefore, particularly beloved of those whose job it is to predict the country's political fortunes. He is the pundit's favourite. London Weekend Television's *Weekend World* were surely delighted that he could appear to give his reaction to the Conservatives' rough ride at the polls.

Nor did he disappoint. "Black Thursday" was his verdict. Mrs Thatcher would not be leading the party through the full course of the next parliament: so a "balanced ticket" needed to be prepared. Did she have liabilities? "Oh yes". History would judge Mrs Thatcher generously, he generously opined.

The country wanted some "calculated humility". Explanation was better than preaching. As for the target of a 25P income tax rate, that was merely "one marker" in the coming debate. As for public spending, more was needed on education, health and local authority services. In case any lunchtime viewer might be more susceptible to history

than economics, Mr Biffen's case came complete with approving noises about Rab Butler, Iain Macleod, even Clem Attlee.

If the Prime Minister were in any doubt about the impact of last week's election results, this reaction from the Leader of the House of Commons should have removed it. She has a real struggle ahead to reassert herself and her policies to the parliamentarians and the people at large who are now so clearly so nervous of them.

That is not to say that all Mr Biffen's prescriptions are wrong. Far from it. As we commented in our own reaction to the poll verdict on Saturday, the Prime Minister is not the best spokesman to present a "caring" policy on education and health. Other voices will be better heard. But that is a long way from the concept of a "balanced ticket", which sounds like a recipe for power-sharing, uncertainty and electoral catastrophe.

Nor is his coded assault on Mr Norman Tebbit wholly to be rejected. The nation does not seem to believe Mr Tebbit's charge that the Labour Party is in thrall to militant extremists. The nation may live to regret its trust in the smiling Mr Kinnock but Mr Tebbit's oft-repeated preachings may not be the best way to dissuade it. Mr Scargill, like inflation, is down and not out. But, as in so many areas, the Government has not succeeded in finding a voice that can both remind voters about

past dangers and reassure them about future ones.

Mr Biffen made some good suggestions yesterday — especially on the need for a determined identification of what the Conservative Party really is and what its opponents are not. His stress on sound money and the wider ownership of wealth is central. But they are the very issues that the Prime Minister has made her own. It is disingenuous to suggest that a "balanced ticket" would do anything but obscure their clarity.

It has, therefore, to be asked whether yesterday should mark the end of Mr Biffen's special status as Mr Frank Sincerity. The sum of his remarks is that the Prime Minister should lead the party into the next election like some latter-day El Cid — a propped-up politician, needed only because time is too short to accustom the troops to a replacement. It was always thought that if the time came for the Conservatives to demand a new tenant for Downing Street, Viscount Whitelaw would be the man to bear in the velvet cushion and the jewel-handled dagger. Instead it was the Leader of the House of Commons, with a delayed-action poison pill in a cup of London Weekend coffee.

Before Mrs Thatcher begins the serious business of answering the concerns expressed by the country last week, she should reject Mr Biffen's gift. At the Conference of Scottish Conservatives later this week she has the chance to say that she has done so and why.

Anzus's 'little local difficulty'

From Miss R. P. Heath
Sir, Your leading article (May 2) which accuses New Zealand of elevating her non-nuclear policy to the level of caprice is surely extraordinary for the blunt insensitivity of its timing? Even more remarkably, it was printed immediately below a leader concerned with the Chernobyl disaster.

You assume as a premise that New Zealand's anti-nuclear view is a purely addendal gesture. Thus, to insist on such a policy absolutely, you say, "combines eccentricity with indulgence". On the contrary — since the policy is entirely pragmatic, even if its support in some quarters becomes emotional, it is valueless as a decision unless its effect in practice is indeed absolute. The policy is not aimed at self-expression, but at real-world results.

The serious pollution shadow from the Russian disaster is a little larger than the United Kingdom. So is New Zealand. One such disaster could terminate the promising life of a young country.

In the circumstances — which you point out — that New Zealand has no need for nuclear power or nuclear weapons, it is not capricious to ask her to accept such a risk for the sake of principle alone, and then to react so touchily when, with a collision on the horizon, she declines?

Yours faithfully,
R. P. HEATH,
6 St Leonard's Terrace, SW3.
May 3.

From the High Commissioner for New Zealand
Sir, The third leader you published on May 2, under the title "Anzus's little local difficulty", included two errors about the policy of the New Zealand Government on nuclear ship visits.

The first is the implication that my Government is asking the United States and the United Kingdom to declare whether or not one of its vessels is carrying nuclear weapons. The Bill that is now before Parliament makes clear that the Prime Minister of New Zealand will decide whether a ship that seeks to visit a New Zealand port is carrying nuclear weapons, and his decision will be based on New Zealand sources.

The second error is the statement that the proposed legislation will enshrine the anti-nuclear policy in the country's Constitution. New Zealand does not have a written Constitution. The New Zealand Nuclear Free Zone, Disarmament, and Arms Control Bill, when passed, will become part of the body of New Zealand law, as does any other piece of legislation passed by Parliament.

You say that a collision on the issue is avoidable. Errors of this kind do not help to avoid one. Yours faithfully,
BRYCE HARLAND,
New Zealand High Commissioner,
Haymarket, SW1.
May 6.

Brain drain

From Mr Adrian Brasnett
Sir, I was surprised to read in your report in today's *Times* (May 2) about the brain drain facing British universities that you quote the figure of £7,000 to £8,000 as the range of salaries for graduates entering the profession. This is a very selective figure, based upon the salaries of those few graduates who obtain posts as research assistants, a job that involves departmental duties as well as time to research for a higher degree.

The majority of graduates who start an academic career do so as postgraduate students with a research council grant, currently worth £2,665 pa (£3,265 in London). This sum is calculated by multiplying up the value of a local education authority grant for undergraduates to cover a whole year, an amount which has been declining steadily in real terms over the last few years. It is when talented graduates have been commanding increasingly high salaries in other sectors.

For postgraduates such as myself and most of my colleagues the experience of living on such a pittance has made us acutely aware of the prospects we face should we seek to continue our academic careers in this country, and it is certain that many of us will be joining the brain drain out of the universities as soon as we complete our PhDs.

Unless the research council grants are more closely linked to the salaries of other graduates there will be increasingly little attraction for graduates to even consider starting an academic career. Yours faithfully,
ADRIAN BRASNETT,
26 Friars Road,
Manchester Road, E14.

Single European Act

From Mr Geoffrey Rippon, QC, MP for Heatham (Conservative)

Sir, You recently published a letter (May 6) from Mr Peter Horsfield, QC, and Mr Leon Price, QC. The heading you gave it, "Prospect of a European super-state", neatly encapsulates the misapprehensions with which the authors frighten themselves and seek to frighten your readers. There is no such prospect. It is absurd to think that the Prime Minister of all people would entertain one.

Rather, the Single European Act, which she agreed in Luxembourg last December and which is now being put to Parliament for approval, introduces some limited changes to the Treaty of Rome to

Maintaining loyalty to the Union

From Professor Emeritus Thomas Wilson, FBA

Sir, Neither the disagreeable rhetoric of the Paisleyites nor the indefensible violence should conceal the fact that many persons of moderate outlook in Northern Ireland feel affronted by the Anglo-Irish Agreement, so insensitively imposed upon them. Some recent visits have left me in no doubt on that score.

Loyalty to the Union cannot require the unquestioning acceptance even of a measure that will, it is feared, gradually undermine the basis of that Union. Its supporters, who include many Catholics, have a right to express their concern.

The guarantee of self-determination has been depreciated by the fact that the Republic is already there, able to exert its influence over the whole range of Ulster affairs at secret conferences from which all Ulster representatives are excluded. Even if there were to be a new Assembly, these conferences would still deal with non-devolved matters, including security and the administration of justice. With local people still excluded, this would be a recipe for alienation. A change is required.

In order to understand the response to the guarantee, it must also be recalled that Ulster is already claimed to be *de jure* part of the Republic by Article 2 of its Constitution without regard for the wishes of its inhabitants. An appeal was made to this article by Fianna Fail in attacking the guarantee in the Dail where the Agreement was finally supported by only 88 votes to 75 last November.

At the recent conference of this

party — which may soon be forming a new government — Mr Haughey demanded once more the convening of a constitutional conference to establish a political entity which would embrace the whole island of Ireland. This attitude contributes nothing to goodwill and reconciliation.

The British Government, for its part, should have stressed initially the need for full all-party support in the Dail. It should also have insisted that no agreement of this kind could become effective until the Republic had altered its Constitution. In the event this issue, fudged in Dublin with such unhappy consequences for power-sharing in 1973/74, is being fudged again.

Even at this stage it would be entirely proper for our own Government to point out that the replacement of Article 2 — perhaps along the less imperialistic lines suggested by an all-party committee in the Republic in 1967 — is one of the conditions necessary for the survival of the Agreement as an acceptable and workable measure.

Our standing abroad should not be damaged by thus asking for no more than is required by a minimum regard for consistency. A *démarche* of this kind would help to reassure the North by showing that the promise of self-determination is backed by serious intention. Yours faithfully,

THOMAS WILSON,
1 Chalford House,
The Promenade,
Clifton,
Bristol,
Avon,
May 7.

Chernobyl disaster

From Dr J. C. Williams

Sir, The news that helicopters have been used to drop sand, lead and boron into the damaged nuclear reactor at Chernobyl would seem to imply that the installation did not include adequate safety precautions. A fire depressant and a neutron absorber, both usually in the form of powdered materials, should be available on the site of a nuclear reactor, with provision for blowing them into the reactor in an emergency.

In particular the reaction should be stopped by flooding the reactor with powdered boron carbide if there is a danger that the reactor will go out of control. In the case of the Chernobyl reactor the rise in pressure should have been used to

bring about this flooding before the container was ruptured.

Can we have assurances from the appropriate authorities that every nuclear reactor in this country is provided with adequate arrangements for suppressing the nuclear reaction and fighting fires; and that the installations for the storage and movement of the powders used for these purposes have been properly designed so as to guarantee the introduction of these materials into the reactor in time to reduce the severity of the consequences of an accident? Yours faithfully,

JOHN WILLIAMS,
University of Bradford,
Postgraduate School of
Studies in Powder Technology,
Bradford, West Yorkshire,
May 6.

GCSE standards

From the Headmaster of Derby School

Sir, Your correspondent, Mr R.J. Anderson (May 7), is somewhat rash in drawing conclusions about GCSE standards from four sample questions from mathematics papers.

Considerable research has been undertaken into the requirements of "users" — employers, further and higher education — of a mathematics qualification at 16+. In particular the Cockcroft report, *Mathematics Counts* (1982), went very thoroughly into this question. Recommendations from the report form much of the GCSE criteria for mathematics and will, therefore, be incorporated in all courses leading to the new qualification.

The examples quoted in your Spectrum article (April 25) were from papers set for three different levels of attainment. They are only typical in the sense that they illustrate a different approach. They obviously do not represent the range of the syllabus for the courses nor the range of question length and complexity. These examinations attempt to find out what the candidate knows, not catch them out. The application of mathematics is tested in realistic contexts to encourage a problem-solving approach.

On the contrary

From Dr H.W. Griffiths

Sir, As a retired general practitioner, I was most interested in Dr Richard Griffiths's letter today (May 7) — no relation to me as far as I know.

My mother and father came from the heart of what used to be Carmarthenshire and Cardiganshire. When I have been back to family funerals in the village of Llanfair Clynogau, I have been amazed to see that so many of the ages on the tombstones have been those of early childhood, or of those surviving into their eighties or nineties.

They literally lived off the fat of the land, and they were proud of the dairy produce they consumed (the Welsh bacon of the time was almost solid fat with only a streak

What is clearly demonstrated by Mr Anderson's letter is the importance of the education of GCSE "users". More than 20 years after the introduction of CSE some employers still do not understand it. This must not be allowed to happen this time and it is to be hoped that a comprehensive programme for public information is undertaken. Yours faithfully,
B. D. SEAGER, Headmaster,
Derby School,
Moortway Lane,
Littleover, Derby.

How long, O Lord?

From the General Secretary of the Guild of Church Musicians

Sir, I hope that your recent correspondence are not complaining about the length of the concluding voluntaries at choral evensong broadcasts.

After many years of "cutting off" the voluntary after perhaps a minute, it is gratifying to church musicians and others who appreciate such things that the BBC now appears to consider the piece to be part of the whole act of worship, which indeed it is, and the organist is allowed to play it to the end. Yours faithfully,

JOHN EWINSTON,
General Secretary,
Guild of Church Musicians,
Hillbrook, Godstone Road,
Blechningley, Surrey.

of lean in the centre). They ate their food with the conviction that it would make them healthy and strong. Yours truly,
H.W. GRIFFITHS,
Heathcliff,
St Anne's Close,
Langland,
Swansea, West Glamorgan.

From Miss Enid Lakeman
Sir, Dr Griffiths (May 7) might find the hint of an answer to his puzzle if he counted the vegetarians among octogenarians and nonagenarians who are still leading independent lives without need of an old people's home. Yours faithfully,

ENID LAKEAMAN (82),
37 Culverden Avenue,
Tunbridge Wells, Kent.
May 7.

still have to surmount costly administrative hurdles and that price fixing cartels still keep the level of air fares artificially high.

The Treaty of Rome is nearly 30 years old. The Single European Act brings it up to date. It will help the Community make itself competitive in the new technologies. It will make the Community relevant to people who want to see a more open market for our exports, cheaper air fares and opportunities for jobs. That is what the Single European Act, in reality, is all about. That is why the House of Commons voted 2:1 in its favour on its second reading two weeks ago. Yours faithfully,

GEOFFREY RIPPON,
House of Commons,
May 9.

ON THIS DAY

MAY 12 1812

Spencer Perceval (1762-1812) succeeded the Duke of Portland as prime minister in October, 1809. His assassin was a bankrupt named John Bellingham whose plea of insanity was rejected and who was hanged on May 18. The cry of "murderers for ever" reverberated through the streets of London. Perceval had authorized when he was attorney-general ("On this Day", April 10).

[PRIME MINISTER] [ASSASSINATED]

... Mr PERCEVAL was murdered yesterday afternoon on his entrance into the lobby of the House of Commons. The following are such other particulars as acquire an interest from the fatal catastrophe with which they are connected:

About a quarter past five Mr. PERCEVAL was entering the Lobby of the House of Commons, where a number of persons were standing, when a man, who had a short time previously placed himself in the recess of the door-way within the Lobby, drew out a small pistol, and shot Mr. PERCEVAL in the lower part of the left breast. The ball is supposed to have entered the heart. Mr. PERCEVAL moved forwards a few faltering steps, nearly half way up the lobby, and was in the act of falling, when some persons stepped forward and caught him. He was immediately carried to the room of the SPEAKER'S Secretary, to the left of the lobby, by Mr. W. SMITH, Mr. BRADSHAW and another Gentleman. Mr. LYNN, the Surgeon, in Parliament-street, was immediately sent for, but on examining the wound, he considered the case utterly hopeless. All that escaped Mr. PERCEVAL's lips previously to falling in the lobby, was "murder," or "murderers."

He said no more afterwards. He expired in about ten or twelve minutes after receiving the fatal wound. Several Members of both Houses of Parliament went into the room, while he was dying; among others, his brother, Lord ARDEN all of them appeared greatly agitated. There was very little effusion of blood from the wound, externally. His body was subsequently removed into the SPEAKER'S House. Lord FRANCIS OSBORNE, Lord OSBOLSTON, and some others, were crossing the lobby at the moment of the assassination, and were very near to Mr. PERCEVAL. The deed was perpetrated so suddenly, that the man who fired the pistol was not instantly recognized by those in the lobby; but a person passing at the moment behind Mr. PERCEVAL seized the pistol, (which was a very small one) from the hand of the assassin, who retired towards a bench to the left; he surrendered it without any resistance. Mr. GOODRICH, an Officer of the House, took hold of him, and asked if he were the villain who shot the Minister. He replied, "I am the unhappy man; but appeared quite undisturbed. It is said, that he added something about the want of redress of grievances from Ministers; but if he did say so, it was heard by very few. On searching him, a few pounds were found in his pockets, and some printed papers, copies of which he is said to have previously distributed among Members. He was taken to the bar of the House of Commons, and identified as the assassin. Another pistol, similar to that which he had fired, was taken from his pocket in the House. ...

After an examination of various witnesses, among whom were Lords OSBOLSTON and FRANCIS OSBORNE, General GASCOYNE, Mr. H. SUMMER, the Officers of the House, and several strangers, the man was fully committed to Newgate for trial. A hackney-coach was brought to the iron gates in Lower Palace-yard, but the crowd, which was at first composed of decent people, had been gradually swelled by a concourse of pick-pockets and the lower orders, who mounted the coach, and were so exceedingly troublesome and even dangerous, that it was not deemed advisable to send him to Newgate in the manner intended. We heard with pain, repeated shouts of applause from the ignorant or depraved part of the crowd, as if they were hailing some oppressed but innocent victim; some of whom even mixed with their shouts, the cry of "Burdett for ever!" and attempted to open the opposite door of the coach, as if to give the murderer an opportunity of escape. A party of Life Guards arrived about this time, and formed a semicircle in Lower Palace-yard, by which the mob were kept more at a distance. It was however, thought more prudent to send him away by another outlet, and so avoid all confusion. He was therefore taken out by the Speaker's entrance, and conveyed to Newgate. His name is Bellingham. He has been engaged in mercantile concerns at Liverpool, and was recognised by General TARLETON and GASCOYNE, the Members for that place. He is about 5 feet 9 or 10 inches in height, with rather a thin visage, a nose somewhat aquiline, and of general appearance. He has been a good deal about the House of Commons during these few weeks, and dined several times in the coffee-room. ...

Three or four years ago, the Minister was shot by a man who fired the pistol was not instantly recognized by those in the lobby; but a person passing at the moment behind Mr. PERCEVAL seized the pistol, (which was a very small one) from the hand of the assassin, who retired towards a bench to the left; he surrendered it without any resistance. Mr. GOODRICH, an Officer of the House, took hold of him, and asked if he were the villain who shot the Minister. He replied, "I am the unhappy man; but appeared quite undisturbed. It is said, that he added something about the want of redress of grievances from Ministers; but if he did say so, it was heard by very few. On searching him, a few pounds were found in his pockets, and some printed papers, copies of which he is said to have previously distributed among Members. He was taken to the bar of the House of Commons, and identified as the assassin. Another pistol, similar to that which he had fired, was taken from his pocket in the House. ...

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SECURING RECONCILIATION IN ULSTER

Many voices will be raised this week to claim that the Hillsborough agreement, signed six months ago by the British and Irish governments, has failed. On the evidence of those months alone, it would be easy to agree with that judgement. The two main Unionist parties have publicly withdrawn from political institutions in the province until the government agrees to suspend the agreement — a withdrawal confirmed this weekend when Dr Ian Paisley and Mr James Molyneux cancelled Tuesday's meeting with the Government. The Royal Ulster Constabulary is under attack from loyalist extremists. There has been law-breaking, violence, and murder aplenty, and there are ominous signals that worse may yet come.

A few small gains have indeed been registered. North-South security cooperation is improving. The February by-elections registered a shift away from Provisional Sinn Féin and towards the Social Democratic and Labour Party. The Republic has signed the European Convention on the Suppression of Terrorism. And the United States has pledged modest funds to help the battered local economy.

But such a checklist omits the heart of the problem. The achievements and prospects for the agreement should be judged against the protection of democratic life from violence and the reconciliation of a divided community. Governments have wavered over the years between giving the one aim or the other the higher priority, since counter-terrorist policy has often obstructed

the work of reconciling one community to another. The Hillsborough agreement combines these aims in a fresh synthesis.

Reconciliation between communities is only possible when compromises can be reached free from the threat of violence. In current practical terms in Ireland, the next stage of that long haul involves a closer alignment of the security and judicial machinery on either side of the border. There is a common enemy and there must be common ground on which allies can meet.

The diplomacy of the agreement also involved *realpolitik*. Both governments could well admit that Britain needs security assistance from the Republic; the Republic's government does not need the political unpopularity of extending such assistance further. A reciprocal concession has therefore been made in allowing the Republic an opportunity to represent the Roman Catholic minority in the north.

But the precise form of the agreement takes prodigious risks. It has allowed this concession without any residual pressure on the Republic to abandon its constitutional claim to the north, and there is no leverage on the SDLP to encourage it to engage in serious negotiation over devolved government in Belfast. Every concession to nationalism thus runs the risk that it will be matched not by compromise, but by further demands for reunification, and nothing less. It also risks a long-term boycott by the unionist community.

1386 AND ALL THAT

One of the few facts that children retain from school history is that Portugal is Britain's oldest ally. Six hundred years ago Kings Richard II of England and John I of Portugal put their signatures to the Treaty of Windsor. Written in Latin on sheepskin parchment, its 13 articles pledged political, commercial and military cooperation between the two countries, following a crucial battle in the previous year when British archers had played a prominent part in Portugal's fight for independence from Spain.

Only once since then have the two nations nearly come to blows — during the 1890s in Africa when Portugal, anxious to link up its colonies in Angola and Mozambique ran into Britain's imperial progress from Cairo to the Cape. In the First World War Portuguese troops fought on the Western front. In the Second, Lisbon allowed use of the Azores by Britain. Mrs. Thatcher's government ob-

tained similar permission during the Falklands War.

Nine Portuguese kings have been Knights of the Garter. The close political relationship this suggests was underlined last year when both the Queen and Mrs. Thatcher visited Lisbon. Commercially, Portugal sends £690m worth of exports to Britain in return for £440m worth of British goods. There is no lack of benefits for both nations to reflect on as President Mario Soares and the Lisbon Prime Minister Senhor Anibal Cavaco Silva join the Queen for a service of thanksgiving at the Chapel Royal Windsor today.

A decade after the democratic revolution, Portugal has re-entered the Western European mainstream, albeit as the poorest nation in the European Community. But foreign investment has been rising. An economic growth rate which is expected to reach four per cent this year and a falling level of inflation — down from 30 per cent to 19 per cent last year —

are indicators of a country whose fortunes are slowly rising. The present government is gaining from falling oil prices and the declining dollar. And it can also look forward to help from the Community's development funds for long overdue improvements to the national infrastructure.

Portugal needs time, but at least it has won some already. Its industry has seven years before other Community countries are allowed free access to Portuguese markets. Its inefficient agricultural sector has a 10 year transitional period. And the government does not have to start contributing to the Community budget until 1991. This should allow Lisbon to

THE ARTS

Television
Tenuous
paradise

In 1790 the ancestors of the Bounty, led by Fletcher Christian, landed on the remote island of Pitcairn. Today the world's remotest permanently inhabited settlement exists on some 50 of their descendants — including a radio ham with an OBE. One of Fletcher's more famous descendants is the *Bounty* film's director, Glynis Christian.

In an ultimately fascinating edition of *World About Us* (BBC2), he set out for the island which had obsessed him, so he claims with irritating self-importance, for 30 years. Glynis Christian's script, which was no stranger to times like "recipe for insurrection", hardly made one salivate at his prospective biography of Fletcher. It was to complete this work that he undertook the voyage south.

On the first leg, he might have done better to spare some forced parallels between Bligh's experience and his own. Sailing a chartered yacht from Tahiti with a crew full of people called Jasmine and Vivian did not seem quite the staggering feat he made it. It was also selectively filmed.

However, as soon as he landed, the programme became a different kettle of fish altogether. The marvellous historical element (i.e. had Fletcher died here or not?) became eclipsed by an absorbing account of the islanders and their tenuous paradise. Under the firm eye of Ted Cochran — and finely edited by Caroline Judson — we were treated to some memorable sequences: notably the bringing of an injured captain to land through treacherous seas and a goat hunt conducted by what appeared to be the Pitcairn chapter of the Hell's Angels. Having initially basked in the curiosity "of which I was naturally the centre", even Mr Christian became visibly moved by the life and soul of these islanders.

Directed by David Camille, Yorkshire's dramatization of Angela Huth's play *The Understanding* was a delight. When a young flame-haired girl Friday is employed in a house full of wrinkles, the impact is charming and funny. Angela Huth has a fine ear for the many languages of love and deception and the truth that they alter not one whit with age.

Looking as fragile as old porcelain, Constance Cummings made a convincing Acton. As her brother-in-law and secret lover, Michael Aldridge was a bit crumpled and ponderous — like a cardinal sat on by a big bottom.

Nicholas Shakespeare

Opera
National Studio
Bloomsbury Theatre

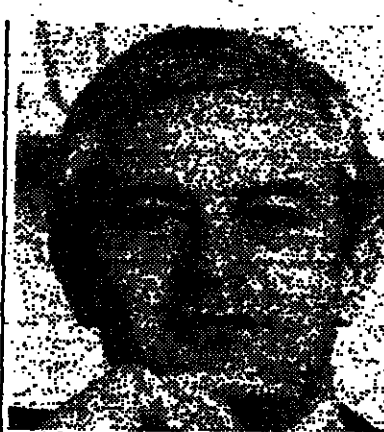
The audacity of starting an evening of short-staged operatic extracts with the opening scene and duet from *Don Giovanni* is typical of the National Opera Studio. Typical too was the immediate intensity of dramatic focus, a quality which characterizes the end-of-term showcases and which generated within seconds a real taste of omnipresent evil for *The Turn of the Screw*.

The young trainees, of course, have enjoyed a full academic year of meticulous in-depth grooming in every detail of stagecraft and intensive musical coaching. As usual, it showed in vigorously paced recitative, assurance of idiom and minute attention to movement and gesture. And they were helped no end by Michael McCaffery's stylish stage direction and David Parry's pertinent support in the pit.

But it is not the year of the potential megastar. Of the statutory 12 trainees, few this time round have real sharpness of vocal profile or truly memorable stage presence. It is, however, the year of the bass. I shall look forward to following the career of Clive Bayley, a character-bass and more, whose elegant, sharply observed portraits of Seneca (*Phaedra*), Melitoe (*Forza del destino*) and Don Pasquale fit the evening and pointed, perhaps, to a future Richard Van Allen.

At the opposite end of the scale, the search for a breed of properly dramatic soprano continues. The style and vivacity of Lisa Gasteen's Leonora (*Forza*) was dampened by insufficient weight and momentum, while Carol Smith's bold and intelligent Mrs Grose and Donna Anna need a careful watch on what threatens to become an overblown vibrato. As long as the Home Office is wise enough to extend her time here, we shall, I hope, hear more of the West Indian mezzo Hyacinth Nicholson, a characterful Pallade (*Poppa*) and Dalila.

Hilary Finch



Graeme McDonald: found the slaughterhouse all too strong

A serious disease has been diagnosed among the higher management of the BBC. The symptoms include heavy sweating when viewing programmes before transmission and a tendency to hear voices, particularly those of Mrs Mary Whitehouse and Mr Douglas Hurd. The symptoms were first diagnosed in August of last year, following the decision of the BBC governors not to transmit a documentary about Northern Ireland made for the *Real Lives* series, and have proved increasingly infectious. "I call it *Real Lives-itis*", says one BBC documentary-maker. "Anything apparently anti-Thatcher, in fact anything anti any body or individual who might kick back, they start twitching for the scissars."

The producer cannot be named; one of the side-effects of the infection of the upper echelons is a terror among the lower orders about expressing dissent. But his views are echoed elsewhere. A playwright whose work was threatened with shelving, and then amended, he alleges, without

At a time when one of the Royal Ballet's leading dancers, Anthony Dowell, is about to become the company's artistic director, the two leading French choreographers, Maurice Béjart and Roland Petit, have just put their names to a long letter, signed by a half a page in *Le Figaro*, declaring that star dancers are quite the wrong people to run ballet companies.

The letter, printed with an introduction by the paper's arts editor and former dance critic, Claude Baignères, is seen in Paris less as an artistic manifesto than as a move in a power-struggle following the recent French elections. People familiar with the innumerable programme notes and other writings, with Béjart's flamboyant and dramatic prose style find it difficult to believe that he actually composed the letter himself. Neither does it have the ring of Petit's usual chatty prose.

However, even if the letter is a

Theatre
Double Cross
Royal Court

It is a deeply intriguing coincidence that Brendan Bracken, Churchill's wartime Minister of Information, and William Joyce, who performed a not dissimilar role for the other side under the nickname of "Lord Haw-Haw", were both expatriate Irishmen who strove to bury all trace of their national origins. In *Double Cross*, the latest production of the Derry-based Field Day Company, Thomas Kilroy attacks this joint conundrum by examining the two lives for the light each casts on the other.

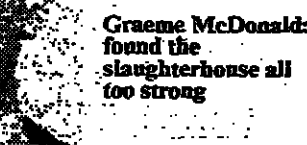
As there is no evidence that Bracken and Joyce ever met, Mr Kilroy resorts to a parallel enquiry in the form of two virtually self-contained plays, with each hero absorbed in his own affairs while obsessively aware of the career of his opposite number. Bracken listens to German radio and hears himself described as "that well-known poseur and parasite", while Joyce keeps abreast of Bracken's moribund, boozing, warming-up "Little-Tattle Tom" and "Rodney Rumour".

One point that emerges with absolute clarity is that Bracken and Joyce present a grand-scale example of the Irish tradition of shedding their oppressed status by becoming more English than the English. In their case the masquerade went beyond the usual social and artistic conquests into the world of political power.

For Mr Kilroy, I suspect, this would rank as a cliché unworthy of re-statement. At all events, he dwells hardly at all on the Irish background

Mumbo Jumbo
Royal Exchange,
Manchester

The literary quotations that feature so portentously in the Royal Exchange's programmes grow ever more eclectic. Larkin, Hemingway, Harold Wilson, John Clare, Theodore Roosevelt and Tim Brooke-Taylor — each adds his pennyworth to the current jumble. Such a catholic display to introduce a Protestant drama, Robin Glendinning's second staged work, and the joint winner of the Mobil Playwriting competition, *Mumbo Jumbo* devolves almost entirely in a Belfast boarding school where an enthusiastic, aged English master known as The Dean uses his walking-stick to conduct a sixth-form

The BBC's sensitivity to outside criticism seems now to be verging on destructive paranoia: Mark Lawson investigates cause and effect
Just a word in the ear upstairs

his consent, says: "My impression was that one's work was being carved up — by people from outside the drama department — out of a mixture of philistinism and fear. I find the present atmosphere very worrying."

This sixth-floor twitchiness and its effect on staff morale is the flipside to the BBC's recent triumphs in ratings and awards ceremonies. The decision to give "technical redundancy" to the important BBC current affairs journalist Roger Bolton is seen as the latest symptom. Other recent victims of the disease are:

● *The Fishing Party*, a documentary produced by Paul Watson for the 40 Minutes series, was "referred upwards" to senior management because of queasiness about its depiction of four extreme right-wing apologists. Management requested a "clarification" before transmission.

● The fourth part of the BBC Wales ecological documentary series *Far From Paradise* was referred to the Controller of BBC2, Graeme McDonald,



The Fishing Party: management required "clarification" before transmission

who decided that a sequence depicting the passage of a cow from grazing to gravity was "too strong for that time of night". The edition was postponed and then shown without the slaughterhouse scene.

● *Songs of Experience*, a film written by Martin Allen for the Screen Two series, was filmed in alternative versions, offering different degrees of explicitness and explicitness. Bill Cotton, Managing Director, took the rare step of referral to the Director-General, Alasdair Milne, which led to agreement to screening after "cleaning-up".

● *Deadhead*, also suffered

from an eleventh-hour frown from above. Cuts in sexually explicit language and action were ordered by Graeme McDonald.

● A BBC Scotland hospital comedy, *The Houseman's Tale*, was sent back to its producer in the same week that transmission was announced in *Radio Times*. No new date has been fixed.

● *Are You a Racist?*, a film for the Horizon popular science series, also suffered cuts. Another Horizon programme, about AIDS and male sexual behaviour, is now expected never to be shown.

Other, smaller, examples have led to a feeling in the affected parts of the BBC that the management's dusk raids — often last-minute, sometimes after the first version has been screened to the Press and always attracting adverse publicity — smack less of responsible cutting and more of stricken guilt. A Sunday repeat of a weekday edition of *EastEnders* suddenly snips 30 seconds from a suicide scene or, in a play, a copulatory word beginning with "f" is switched for one beginning with "s" and Mrs Mary Whitehouse, the beacon of decency, might justifiably cry

Mary Whitehouse: can justifiably feel she is winning the censorship battle

"I'm winning! I'm winning! They're listening!"

Well, are they? The reasons for this asbestos mentality among management are varied. The so-called *Real Lives-itis* is a major factor: burnt fingers, the BBC management picks up tapes and scripts gingerly. The suspension of two journalists from the series *Rough Justice* has, when combined with the *Real Lives* farrago, conspired to make six-part series on the sex-life of the golden eagle increasingly attractive to documentary bosses. In terms of money expended for footage produced, investigative journalism is expensive; any excuse to reduce it is welcomed. There is also pre-Peacock fear; while awaiting the Professor's recommendations, it is vital, argues management, that the BBC "keeps its hands clean". The "watch your backs" mentality begins to exert a paralyzing hold.

For programme-makers, the most painful aspect of the last few months has been the thorough muddle-headedness of the management reaction.



With television under threat of censorship by government, they believe there is a need for a logical and organized response. The decisions taken to date seem insistently contradictory. In the eyes of Mrs Whitehouse, every act of censorship, the more muddled and public the better, is an admission of guilt. How she must relish the sight of the BBC hierarchy behaving like characters in indifferent thrillers who stammer "Look wherever you want, constable" while inclining sideways to hide the bloodstain on the wall.

The danger is that the bug may soon have entered the mental air-conditioning of most executives. We face the end of investigative television journalism, the death of the polemic, an unspoken requirement for BBC employees to leave their teeth at the door. As one programme-maker says: "The producer kept saying we'd got away with more than he'd expected. But producing programmes shouldn't be about seeing what you can smuggle through customs."

Rudolf Nureyev, the Paris Opéra's ballet director, is under fire from rival choreographers in a typically French media battle of topsy-turvydom: John Percival reports

The trick of turning success into failure

back job put together for them, it undoubtedly represents their antipathy to Rudolf Nureyev as ballet director. Petit fell out with Nureyev after the latter had danced with Petit's Marseille company in New York a few years back, following a quarrel variously ascribed to Nureyev's interpretation of Petit's choreography and his partner's ambition to call the choreographer on stage quickly enough to share the applause.

Béjart's quarrel with Nureyev is more recent and more public. As reported last month, Béjart went on stage after the performance of one of his ballets at the Paris Opéra and announced the promotion of

his two leading men. When the Opéra pointed out that he had no authority for this, he went on television and denounced Nureyev in terms like a cross between *Macbeth* and *Phantom of the Opera*. That provoked an official statement by the Opéra's administration referring to a psychological crisis and expressing hopes for a speedy recovery.

The renewed and combined attack calls for a national inquiry into how the Opéra should be run. The argument put forward is that, since the years of Rolf Liebermann's administration, the internal condition and artistic prestige of the national ballet company at

the Opéra has declined under three successive directors. To an outsider, that looks like the exact opposite of the truth.

It was during Rosella Hightower's period as director that one began to see real progress, which has accelerated under Nureyev. By bringing forward the rich talent among the younger dancers, and by introducing a far more varied and interesting repertoire, Nureyev has brought the company to a level where his claim that the dancers are the best in the world today would find wide assent. In that context, the argument by Béjart and Petit that a star dancer must inevitably be too preoccupied with

his own career to take care of the development of other dancers looks rather silly.

It is in any case a surprising claim from two men each of whom began as star dancer and choreographer and director of his own company, and neither of whom could easily stay off stage even after he had ostensibly retired. Many would argue that Petit's best period was the youthful one when he was most fully stretched.

What is perhaps surprising is the extent to which leading dancers are taking over the world's ballet companies. New York City Ballet and American Ballet Theatre, the Royal Danish Ballet, the Austro-

lian Ballet and the National Ballet of Canada all made that choice. Nearer home, London Festival Ballet under Peter Schaufuss has progressed to the point where it is able to offer the Royal Ballet a serious artistic challenge.

Among them all, Nureyev is the one who has achieved the most spectacular results. He had the advantage of a good foundation: one of the best ballet schools in the world to supply his dancers, a realistic budget, a personal experience wider and more varied than any rival. A somewhat impatient personality and a willingness to back his own judgement of young dancers' potential have ruffled feathers but are also factors in the quick results he obtained.

To see his period at the Opéra described as one of decline is like living in a world turned upside-down. But French politics, especially French artistic politics, are too often seen like that.

top notes are regularly squeezed as if something were always being held in reserve. It does make for a somewhat drying flatness of timbre. Before the interval it seemed as if the golden mean were all: a sunny impishness hovered, and one longed for a different tint, particularly in the little grief-stricken Paisiello aria.

Gounod got her going. There was much to enjoy in the way she bound together the nocturnal language of "Absent" into long, warm lines, and in the vocalise which shadowed her Victor Hugo "Sérénade". Bizet's domestic nagative sprung to sprightly life in his "Vieille Chanson", and Satie's "Divine" found her equal.

One hesitates to carp at such affectionately idiomatic artistry; but the Gallic music would have smiled more broadly if Miss Masterson had not been quite so laid back about her vowels: "pail" for "pale", to cite just one example, is pardonable once, but twice is simply careless.

Hilary Finch

Concerts
Philharmonia/
Rattle
Festival Hall

Wafted there by gentle sponsorship from Chausson, the Philharmonia are drifting in spirit to France for the next week in a series of concerts "Après L'Après-Midi". Perhaps Simon Rattle, who conducts all five evenings, somewhat overstates the case in suggesting that French music is unduly neglected. It is, after all, the subject of the Royal Philharmonic Society's current season, and of the Bath Festival soon to begin. But still the chance to hear him in some of his favourite repertoire is not to be missed.

We began, of course, with Debussy's prelude to Mallarmé, a little stiffly played, though the piece is too impossible to make work in the concert hall. But that is emphatically not the case with *Iberia*, which closed the concert in fine style. Mr Rattle kept the movement strong and purposeful through all his changes of texture and speed, leading by way of marvelously clear yet soft detail in the central section to a sharp final crack, the music snapped out of sight just where another composer would have been launching his coda.

Within the Debussy outer layers, there were song trip-ticks by Ravel, and at the centre Boulez's *Rituel*, by far the most un-Debussian of this composer's scores. It is also the most over-played, certainly by the standard of what it has to say, which is not very much, and all of that gloomy. There was some piquancy in hearing the vagaries of the unfixed timing product, a closed C minor for four violins at one point, but that was a modest return. The British premiere of one of Barraqué's works would have been a far more festive catch.

But the Ravel was interesting. Maria Ewing's cool in *Shéhérazade* was wonderfully illuminating, revealing "Asia" as the indolent dream of someone who has no intention of travelling further east than the Marais (Mr Rattle's exquisitely nonsensical conducting of the Chinese episode was in the same vein), and showing that the title of "L'Indifférent" can apply as much to the girl in the doorway as to the youth who passes by. The song was done as if with an erotic shrug, and, if that meant a slithery approach to pitches and notes, it was hard to object. The Mallarmé songs, though, are more difficult to take that way. Miss Ewing's freedom and her wide swerves

Masterson/
Johnson
Wigmore Hall

Two encores, "Depuis le jour" from Charpentier's *Louise* and "A brown bird singing", went to the very heart of the matter. London has waited long enough for Valerie Masterson's recital and recital record. They arrived together at the weekend with almost identical programmes, and gave the Masterson following all it wanted: the warm, sensuous "Divine de l'Empire" on the one hand, and the fresh, milk-and-roses English parlour lass on the other.

England first. Miss Masterson turned to Arne, Handel and Henry Bishop to warm up and, with the help of Graham Johnson (piano) and Richard Adeney (flute), dallied "Under the greenwood tree" and rose with the gentle lark. Her instinctive phrasing and faultless cantabile can have a tendency to stand in for any highly particularized or individual response. And, when

Elgar's perception of an artist somebody set apart from others found its most direct expression in his choral work *The Music Makers*, with its mixture of heroic optimism and nostalgic regret in the setting of a poem by Arthur O'Shaughnessy and its wealth of musical self-quotation. Richard Hickox conducted an eloquent performance of it at the London Symphony Orchestra's concert on Saturday night, which was also by way of heralding the work's forthcoming first new recording in almost 20 years.

It will have, as here, Felicity Palmer as the contralto soloist, gloriously secure and forthright in her singing on this occasion, as much as her incandescent illumination of "the light that doth not depart" as in her great cry of welcome to those "from the dazzling unknown shore" who will show the future. The London Symphony Chorus, uncommonly buoyant of tone in sopranos and tenors, responded with a brightness that needed only some further feeling for the deeper spirit of the words.

Mr Hickox conducted with a sensibility to music and text that came close to the heart of the work, and began to generate the requisite warmth of character from the moment the cellos sang their theme in the introduction. This hall is not kind to music that depends so much on balance and perspective, often fudging what should be our focus of attention, but there were moments of sadness and splendour to reflect that "each age is a dream that is dying, or one that is coming to birth".

Noël Goodwin

Paul Griffiths

LSO/Hickox
Barbican

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In the first part of the programme a breezy but disciplined account of Weber's *Oberon* Overture was followed by Ida Haendel's serenely performed Mendelssohn's Violin Concerto. She was over-indulgent with portamenti, in the first movement particularly, but she spun a beautiful thread of soft tone when required as well as lacking nothing in more extrovert technique. The orchestral playing was a model of style and discernment in supporting her.

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JONATHAN KENT
IAN MCARDMID
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TRANSLATED BY MICHAEL NEVEY
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top notes are regularly squeezed as if something were always being held in reserve. It does make for a somewhat drying flatness of timbre. Before the interval it seemed as if the golden mean were all: a sunny impishness hovered, and one longed for a different tint, particularly in the little grief-stricken Paisiello aria.

Gounod got her going. There was much to enjoy in the way she bound together the nocturnal language of "Absent" into long, warm lines, and in the vocalise which shadowed her Victor Hugo "Sérénade". Bizet's domestic nagative sprung to sprightly life in his "Vieille Chanson", and Satie's "Divine" found her equal.

One hesitates to carp at such affectionately idiomatic artistry; but the Gallic music would have smiled more broadly if Miss Masterson had not been quite so laid back about her vowels: "pail" for "pale", to cite just one example, is pardonable once, but twice is simply careless.

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FINANCE AND INDUSTRY

US NOTEBOOK

Fears of Japanese exodus

From Maxwell Newton
New York

The Group of Seven summit in Tokyo might never have happened, judging by the reaction of the US financial markets.

The refusal of the Europeans to discuss their agricultural policy and the refusal of the West Germans to consider further interest rate cuts left the Americans with no tangible successes to bring home.

Talk of joint currency intervention and co-ordination of economic policies when there is such a maelstrom of money rushing electronically around the world every day is seen as evidence of old-fashioned thinking by politicians.

Each day there are now some 300 billion foreign exchange transactions in New York, enough to swamp completely any feasible central bank action.

The yen has reached a record of 165 to the dollar and has all the marks of going up further. There is no indication that the US authorities have the slightest intention of doing anything about it. The yen has appreciated almost 50 per cent since the September 1985, a stunning reversal of the previous years.

The American bond markets are extremely nervous about the currency trends as the Japanese provided the funds to finance about one third of the \$200 billion federal budget deficit in fiscal 1985 (ended April 1986).

Fears that the Japanese may abandon the US bond markets have driven the 30-year bond yield up from 7.13 per cent on April 15 to almost 7.5 per cent today.

As the Japanese have suffered appalling currency losses and the yield gap between longer-dated US and Japanese issues has fallen from about 400 basis points to under 200 in the past four months, the incentive for the Japanese to look elsewhere is increasing.

The hope is that the yen's rise against the dollar is ending, so encouraging the Japanese into the US financial markets.

The continuing weakness of the US economy is also expected to lead to the long downward trend in US interest rates continuing, once the trims of last week's \$27 billion Treasury bond auction is out of the way. A big downward revision of the first quarter 3.2 per cent real GNP growth is expected to be announced on Tuesday of next week, perhaps to as little as 1.5 per cent.

Indications are that the second-quarter number might be worse than the first quarter, raising the possibility of zero growth in the second quarter. The Federal Reserve is, understandably, in a state of confusion. A too-easy domestic monetary policy may encourage the ultimate nightmare of a run on the dollar, while a too-tight policy may precipitate a recession.

BOARD MEETINGS

TODAY - Interim: Associated Energy Services, BOC Group, Unilever (first quarter). Final: Delyn Packaging, Outch Investment Trust, TR Technology Investment Trust, Tysons (Contractors). **TOMORROW** - Interim: Concentric, GBC Capital, Holmes & Marston Group, Smith and Nephew (first quarter). Final: Anglo American Coal (expected May 14), Chesterfield Properties, Dataserv, William Morris Fine Arts, North Sea & General Oil Investments, Parkland Textile, Walter Runciman, Sears, Warrford Investments.

WEDNESDAY - Interim: Baggeridge Brick, China & Eastern Investment Company, Commercial Union Assurance (first quarter), General Accident (first quarter), NBS Newsagents, Ultramar (first quarter). Final: Asda Property Holdings, Duport, External Investment Trust, Gieves Group, Henderson Group, Land Securities, Mappin & Webb Holdings, Ramco Oil Services, Stearns Romana.

THURSDAY - Interim: British Petroleum (first quarter), English China Clays, Grand Metropolitan, Radio Clyde, Royal Dutch Petroleum (first quarter), Insurance (third quarter), "Shell" Transport and Trading (first quarter), Warner Estate Holdings, Fisons Bank of Ireland, El Oro Mining and Exploration, John Foster and Son, CE Heath, Investors in Industry.

FRIDAY - Interim: ASEA (first quarter), Final: Comprehensive Financial Services, Feb International, Whitbread Investment, Yorklyde.

£9m purchase

Fox & Sons, the residential estate agent in which the Royal Life Insurance Company has a stake, has bought a 10 per cent stake in the company.

British Coal set for profit despite price pressure

By David Young, Energy Correspondent

British Coal, the renamed National Coal Board, is on target to return to profitability this financial year - provided it can persuade another 15,000 miners to leave the industry voluntarily in the next 12 months.

This is in spite of pressure from the industry's main customers to bring coal prices down in line with the world oil price.

British Coal's optimism has been further encouraged by the prospect of coal increasing its share of the electricity generating market in the next 20 years as the pace of nuclear power station building is hit by increased public concern over safety.

The management, led by the chairman, Mr Ian MacGregor, now feel they will be able to persuade the electricity generating industry that the price demanded for coal delivered



Ian MacGregor: expecting to persuade CEBG on price

demands for big price reductions to bring coal into line with short-term world oil prices.

In return it is likely that British Coal will accept that a larger proportion of the overall amount of coal supplied to the CEBG, its largest customer,

should have its price fixed in relation to world coal prices and that future contracts will be short-term to allow more price flexibility.

The electricity consumer bodies have calculated that if coal contract prices fall in line with the world oil price then savings at the power station could mean cuts of about 6 per cent in domestic users' electricity bills.

Industry representatives are also due this week to tell British Coal that they feel coal prices are not following oil prices down fast enough.

The chemical industry, the second biggest user of British-mined coal, is to meet British Coal to discuss the subject.

The electricity industry has said that any price saving it can secure from British Coal will be passed on to the consumer, not to the Exchequer.

BCal talks may lead to merger

By Alison Eadie

Talks between British Caledonian and International Leisure Group, Britain's second largest package tour operator, are believed to have progressed beyond aeroplane swaps to a full-scale merger.

Such a merger, if it came off, would create Britain's largest and most comprehensive holiday and business travel and leisure group.

A spokesman for BCal, the privately-owned airline, yesterday denied that merger discussions were on the table. Mr Harry Goodman, chairman of ILG, formerly Intasun, was unavailable for comment.

However, City sources said that ILG's desire to diversify into a more broadly based leisure group, particularly through buying hotels, had extended the basis of discussion between the two.

BCal, best known for its extensive network of air routes, also owns the Copthorne Hotels, located at Gatwick, Banjul in the Gambia, Lusaka in Zambia, Barbados, the Netherlands Antilles, Brussels and Aberdeen. In addition it has interests in hotels in the Balearic and Canary Islands.

Until recently BCal was a sizeable tour operator, but it sold its Blue Sky and Arrowsmith operations because of the fierce competition. Three weeks ago BCal and ILG announced that they were discussing the cross-utilization of new aircraft. BCal has seven Airbus A320s on order for delivery in 1988 to 1991 with an option to buy three more. Air Europe, ILG's airline, has four Boeing 737-300 aircraft on order for delivery in spring 1987.

Japanese likely to prompt rate cuts

By David Smith, Economics Correspondent

A new round of international interest rate cuts, led by Japan, and good inflation news this week should open the way for an early cut in British base rates.

The Japanese authorities, having failed to secure the cooperation of the other major countries in stabilizing the yen, and having intervened in the markets alone to little effect, may be forced to cut interest rates again to steady their currency.

According to a report from Greenwell Montagu, published yesterday, Japan will take a lead in reducing interest rates because of the damage being inflicted on the economy by the yen's strength.

The yen was at 162 against the dollar on Friday with widespread expectations of a firm break through the 160 level this week.

Producer price statistics, to be published today, are expected to show that industry's raw material and fuel costs fell by 2 to 3 per cent last month, to

about 10 per cent down on the level of a year earlier.

The retail price index, to be published on Friday, is expected to show that the rate of inflation fell by as much as a point, to 3.2 per cent last month.

Greenwell Montagu says: "Real interest rates in the UK remain very high internationally. The UK will respond quickly to any fall in international interest rates."

Lloyds Bank's *International Financial Outlook*, published today, says that despite the rhetoric of the Tokyo summit, international economic co-operation may have run its course since the Plaza agreement of last September.

It predicts British base rates of 9 per cent by the end of the year. The pound is forecast to fall to \$1.45 against the dollar next March, compared with a current \$1.54.

Indemnity cover urged

The Government is expected to urge the Securities and Investments Board (SIB), the central figure in the new self-regulatory framework for investor protection, to require all authorized investment businesses to take out professional indemnity insurance.

This follows last week's concession to the self-regulatory organizations (SROs), which will be largely responsible for policing authorized businesses.

It gave them immunity against negligence actions for damages which are sought by their own members or investors.

The Government is understood to be concerned that this right of action will not always provide sufficient redress for investors who have lost money through the negligence of an authorized business.

It therefore wants authorized businesses to be required to take out insurance against their own negligence, and a satisfactory compensation fund.

John Lewis set to expand

By Derek Harris, Industrial Editor

John Lewis Partnership, the staff-controlled department stores and supermarket group, is planning substantial expansion, especially of its department store operation, including two new stores and extensions for others.

New Waitrose supermarkets are also planned. In its annual report, just out, Mr Peter Lewis, chairman, says: "The partnership has a considerable programme of building development in the years ahead."

With this in prospect the partnership, which at the last year-end had borrowings of only 7 per cent of share capital and reserves, secured a £50 million Eurosterling 20-year bond.

The partnership intends to keep its department store developments in town sites even though an increasing number of competitors are exploiting edge-of-town locations. It feels as a matter of policy that inner cities must be retained as thriving centres for their populations.

There are 21 department stores in the group, four of them having been added in this decade. Its Peterborough outlet, with about 100,000 sq ft of selling space, was opened in 1982. The other three, at Welwyn in Hertfordshire, Norwich and Bristol, were existing stores which were purchased.

The next new store will be at Kingston upon Thames, Surrey, in a riverside development that is expected to include some other retail outlets, offices and possibly a public house as well as extensive car parking. It is expected to be trading by 1990.

When the new department store developments are completed the partnership will have more than 50 per cent extra floor space compared with 1981.

There are 80 Waitrose supermarkets, the latest having opened earlier this year at Dorchester, Dorset. Two more are expected to open at Harrow Weald in Greater London and Backhurst Hill, Essex, this year. Another five are planned for next year.

Dispersing family shareholders in Beaulieu, the stores group, are pressing for an urgent meeting with their trustees over a plan to redevelop the group's Kingston upon Thames site in a £110 million deal with Norwich Union insurance company.

Taking a charitable view, the managers point out that cancellations can happen at any time. However, the recent torrent of apologetic messages has led many to believe that the events in Libya have had more than a passing influence.

Curiously, the American brokerage houses in London deny there has been any spate of cancellations. Spokesmen at Merrill Lynch, Drexel Burnham Lambert and Morgan Stanley between them

Spending rise lifts engineers

By Edward Townsend
Industrial Correspondent

Britain's civil engineering industry, encouraged by extra spending on roads and a government promise of more infrastructure spending, is in its best state for years, with the proportion of firms without work having fallen to a new low of 3 per cent.

While the rise in overall activity is marginal, Mr Derek Gaultier, director-general of the Federation of Civil Engineering Contractors, said the results of the organization's latest workload survey gave cause for some "optimism".

Levels of new work and repair and maintenance work were expected to remain stable which, in comparison with the gloom of previous surveys, was interpreted by the federation as "a sign of optimism," he said.

After a year marred by a significant decline in the value of new civil engineering orders, the latest optimism may be based only on recent reports of the need for more spending on roads, water and sewerage systems.

The federation said, however, the recent Public Sector White Paper confirmed increases in planned spending and that the Department of Transport had announced the intention to clear the backlog of repair work on the trunk road and motorway system by the early 1990s.

The federation added: "Equally, the private commercial and industrial sectors are currently booming".

In the coming year, 56 per cent of the 182 civil engineering companies covered by the survey expected new orders to remain steady and 70 per cent predicted that the same would be true for repair and maintenance work. This was seen as a marked improvement on previous surveys and an indication of better times to come.

On the employment front, the federation said it was disappointed that more firms were now shedding labour than were recruiting.

Saatchi buys Ted Bates

Saatchi & Saatchi, the international advertising agency, has acquired Ted Bates Worldwide for \$450 million (£298 million).

Bates, which is wholly-owned by employees, is the world's third largest advertising agency with billings of \$3.1 billion.

The merger, according to Advertising Age, will create the world's largest advertising agency with billings of \$7.5 billion across 150 offices in 50 countries.

One or two other US companies had the courage to admit that they cancelled their plans "in view of rising international tensions and the dangers which may affect travelling Americans".

However, there are also those that have pleaded other reasons.

In the midst of such faint-heartedness, however, there are signs that the American blend of free enterprise and bravery still exists - one company has been contacting investment managers to say its executives have no fears about coming to Europe and would be happy to fill any broken lunch dates.

Executive Editor Kenneth Fleet

Real message behind the Tokyo rhetoric

No wonder the foreign exchange markets are jumpy. Last week's economic summit presented them with a bizarre contrast. The owners of the world's most important currencies publicly preached enhanced cooperation, based on "surveillance" and "indicators". Not-very-privately, they pleaded maximum uncooperative confusion by disagreeing about exchange rates.

There was a time when this contrast would not have been so marked: when almost the only thing on which central bankers were agreed was the need to keep their intentions unclear. Since last year, however, governments have espoused another faith, smoothly articulated by finance ministers in Tokyo: that the stabilizing influence of central bank cooperation was only felt if the markets knew what governments were trying to do. Hence the deliberate publicity given to the Plaza agreement of the Group of Five finance ministers last September.

The Group of Five had reason to be pleased with the outcome of the Plaza agreement. Its January meeting produced less clear-cut results, but did lead to successive interest rate cuts which was something more than a coincidence.

Now we have the "economic declaration" from Tokyo, claimed by the Americans in particular to be an important step forward from the Plaza. Certainly, the apparatus of cooperation was all there, spelt out in some detail. Part of the excess verbiage was required to outline not-too-distinct roles for the Group of 5 - the finance ministers of the United States, Japan, West Germany, France and Britain - and the new "Group of Seven", which includes the two minor members of the summit club, Italy and Canada.

The first consequence of this summit decision is that those next down the pecking order of the industrial economies (notably the Dutch), are now demanding inclusion. By the time of the autumn meeting of the International Monetary Fund, the Group of Seven may well have been obliged to give way gracefully to the Group of Ten (a club which actually includes 11 economies, since the Swiss joined in).

As well as all this ridiculous international economic diplomacy, the summit polemic on cooperation was clearly designed to provide the US Treasury Secretary with a message for the fall's back home. For American domestic purposes, "surveillance" and "indicators" meant agreement to redress America's trade deficit with Japan.

An awful lot of ifs and buts lie between the language of the summit declaration and that possibility. Last week's declaration raises the same old question about international cooperation. How is it to be enforced?

By "peer group pressure", was the kind of answer given in Tokyo. But finance ministers are representatives of national interests, and their govern-

ments will only act when they see those interests to be involved.

Of course, there are occasions when the apparatus of cooperation can be used to show governments that those interests are involved. More frequent are occasions when one or two big economies reckon they are doing nicely, thank you, even if the others don't like it. Provided those anti-social economies are not in difficulty raising international capital, there is nothing much the others can do except threaten to destroy the world's free trading system by blacking the miscreants' exports.

This has been a fundamental weakness in the system since the early 1970s, when the system of fixed exchange rates broke down; and it is why all today's talk of cooperation depends critically on the move towards managed exchange rates. The only sanction against the strong is that they do not want to become too strong: first the Americans, and now the Japanese, have felt the pains of exchange rate appreciation.

So the most important question confronting the summiters last week was whether the movement in exchange rates initiated last September has gone far enough. The Japanese, plainly, think the yen has risen enough. The Germans are quite happy to see the yen rise further, but think the dollar has fallen enough for now. The British, sitting on the sidelines, seem quite happy to see both movements continue.

And the Americans? Here there is the greatest confusion. Mr Paul Volcker is plainly getting worried about the dollar: but then exchange rate intervention is the only monetary decision over which the US Treasury, not his Federal Reserve Board, has control.

The US Treasury seems to believe, with reason, that the rise in the yen has not gone far enough to make a serious dent in Japanese competitiveness. President Reagan's parting comments in Tokyo (carefully scripted) were that both the US Administration and the Japanese Government wanted stability in the yen-dollar rate. But then President Reagan was trying to undo some of the damage to Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone wrought by the summit, and his words were discounted by the markets as mere politeness.

It is however possible that they signified a little more. We are closer to an international consensus than Tokyo suggested. Among the big three - America, Japan and Germany - there is concern about the pace of exchange rate movements; none will have enjoyed the way the markets have interpreted the summit. If this change in sentiment can be effectively handled by central banks, the new apparatus of international cooperation will have some content. If not, it will be a diplomatic embarrassment, and an economic sham.

Sarah Hogg
Economics Editor

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Party nearly over for bond traders

If you had walked round any international bond market in the last six months, you would have heard them crooning "heavenly, simply heavenly," as yields crashed and values soared. But, as far as the British gilt investor is concerned, the love affair is about to end.

The general consensus now is that base rates will fall rapidly into single figures — dragged by declining inflation and even something of a rebound in oil prices. And it is that prospect that has encouraged the drop in short-dated gilt yields to 9 per cent.

Look a little further ahead, however, and you will see that broad money supply is expanding rapidly; future trade figures promise to be poor; wage settlements are likely to stay high; the fall in worldwide interest rates has virtually run its course, and there is good reason to doubt that the UK differential can be narrowed significantly.

The extended surge in the broad money aggregates which began in early 1985 — as last week's figures for April demonstrated — showing no signs of coming to an end.

It is true enough that growth has been greatly inflated by the persistence of high real interest rates and by financial deregulation while the April figure was distorted because the banking month straddled the financial year and so both the public sector borrowing requirement and bank lending were abnormally high.

Even so, despite the distortions there are still disturbing implications of broad money growing at a year-on-year rate of 16½ per cent. It means that there is a large — and growing — overhang of liquidity in the economy in short-term sterling deposits. Mr Lawson has argued that the private sector wishes to hold this liquidity on a permanent basis.

While we accept an element of truth in this, high cash holdings probably reflect the current high level of interest rates. Should interest rates fall, this cash is likely to be spent or to find its way overseas — thus putting pressure on sterling. So there must be a strong official bias to keeping rates at levels high enough to discourage this.

The vulnerability of sterling has also been increased by the recent deterioration of trade performance. The lurch into current account deficit in March was caused partly by lower oil prices but was also because of the disappointingly poor trend in non-oil trade volumes, especially exports.

Britain's current account has been a healthy surplus since the late 1970s, but this is unlikely to continue. The

erosion of the surplus will gravely weaken one of the props underpinning the currency. Once again, this will reinforce official caution on interest rates.

All this assumes that maintaining a relatively strong pound will remain a priority. If the Government is serious about containing inflation, it will have to pursue policies which ensure the pound holds up.

Even so, it is highly probable that inflation, having dropped to a low point of 2½ per cent in short this summer, will subsequently firm as the one-off downward pressures on domestic prices through external influences gradually evaporate and as wage costs keep growing at 5 per cent or more.

Indeed, unless wage settlements drop significantly, it is difficult to avoid the conclusion that inflation will head back up once more, albeit to only between 4 per cent and 5 per cent. And if this happens, the current tumble in inflation will be a short-lived cyclical low, akin to those of 1978 and 1983.

So far, wage settlements have shown no sign of falling as inflation has dropped. Nevertheless, it is possible that settlements will forego their current stickiness and fall early in the 1986-87 wage round, which will get under way this autumn. Unfortunately, this cannot be taken for granted, particularly as the unemployment situation may then be stabilizing and profits and dividends will still be rising at double-digit rates.

If wage settlements fail to fall later this year, then expectations are likely to adjust to the prospect of a rising profile of inflation in 1987, as the temporary factors which are currently depressing the rate drop away. And this would act as a further constraint on interest rate policy, for the Chancellor has made it clear his interest rate policy will be strongly influenced by what happens to wage settlements. He will not take many risks if — as is likely — unit labour costs continue to rise by 5 per cent or more a year.

While the international interest rate party is almost over, it has not quite finished. No further reduction in either US or West German rates is in prospect in the very near term but one more cut in the US discount rate is probable around mid-year in reaction to the very slow growth in the economy. Indeed, the second-quarter figures may show no growth in US gross national product at all.

This last leg of coordinated cuts in world interest rates would provide the

opportunity for a base rate cut in Britain but there may be little scope, in the light of the considerations outlined above, for lower rates after that. The second-half profile could be flat at 10 per cent or, at best, 9½ per cent.

Admittedly, this would leave British rates high, both in relation to interest rates overseas and, in terms of historical comparison, domestic inflation. Unfortunately, Britain has special problems which differentiate it from many other OECD countries which mean that rates will need to stay high.

The failure of the labour market to adjust to high unemployment and much reduced inflation is a serious problem for the British economy. And the broad monetary aggregates, even though distorted, are expanding at a comfortably fast rate by international standards. Some of the symptoms of these problems can be offset in part by high real interest rates and an overvalued exchange rate.

The Government is unlikely to be too worried by the persistence of high short-term interest rates. In recent years a regime of this sort has had little impact on economic activity and the current outlook for the economy, after a temporary pause over the winter, is for continuing improvement.

It is also instructive to recall that the Government was in no great rush to bring interest rates down last year from their early 1985 crisis level of 14 per cent. Indeed, most in the financial markets were extremely surprised by the tardiness with which interest rates were allowed to fall.

Furthermore, Mr Lawson's carefully planned pre-election strategy centres on cuts in income tax which will boost personal income and demand. Keeping interest rates high to preserve most of the inflation gains will be an acceptable cost if the Chancellor can deliver lower taxes.

Base rates stuck around 10 per cent would be disappointing to the gilt-edged market. Short-term yields have been discounting a particularly optimistic view of base rates ever since the hike to 14 per cent more than a year ago. At the moment this optimism is being sustained by the view that the next movement in base rates will be downwards. Unfortunately, if the next cut turns out to be the last for some time, then the drop in short-dated yields will be increasingly perceived to have gone too far.

Ian Harwood and John Shepperd

Bringing a new dimension to the British bid defence

By Alison Eadie

The frenetic takeover activity gripping the stock market has put a high premium on the services of professional advisers.

The British takeover specialists with the highest profiles today are the merchant banks Morgan Grenfell, Warburg, Rothschild and Kleinwort Benson. But, to an increasing extent, even these well-practised firms are not having the field to themselves.

The habit of hiring a second or even a third merchant bank is growing. In several of the big bids of the past three years that second bank has been the powerful American investment manager, Goldman Sachs.

Goldman's eight-strong London mergers and acquisitions team was called in to assist Hambros in defending Imperial Group from the unwanted attentions of Hanson Trust. It is also acting for Woolworth Holdings in tandem with Rothschild against Dixons Group and for Standard Chartered with Schroder Wagg against Lloyds Bank.

Mr Peter Sachs, a New York senior partner of Goldman Sachs, said that, historically, the firm has acted for the defence. Acting for the predator was simpler, he said. The defence was more complicated.

The traditional British de-

fence of profit forecasts and asset revaluations has not been successful of late, however. Goldman's analysis of all hostile bids in Britain worth more than £75 million since 1983 shows that the chances of remaining independent, without being saved by a reference to the Monopolies Commission, are minimal. There is clearly a market for Goldman's services.

The New York firm believes it can bring an extra dimension to the bid defence, because of its expertise in certain special areas. These areas, according to Mr John Thornton, who heads the London merger team, include valuations, property, leveraged buyouts and arbitrage spotting.

An example of Goldman's work on the valuation front surfaced last week when Standard Chartered Bank announced it was to seek a Tokyo listing. The thinking was that a Tokyo listing would encourage Far Eastern interest in the shares and push the share price from Lloyds' reach.

A similar device was used to boost Exco's worth when it looked vulnerable in 1983. The heavily oversubscribed flotation of Telecel on the New York Stock Exchange led to a doubling of Exco's share price. Exco's 49 per cent stake

in Telecel had previously been an undervalued asset, which the flotation revealed.

A company can command very different valuations, depending on whether it is assessed at its flotation worth, takeover price or management buyout value, Mr Thornton said.

Goldman Sachs, for example, arranged a management buyout for Dunlop's American tyre businesses and was within 15 minutes of seeing it signed, when BTR rejected the offer and secured Dunlop's agreement. The price secured for the buyout demonstrated to BTR what it would have to pay for the group, Goldman believes.

BTR could similarly have been forced to raise its price in the earlier bid for Thomas Tilling when Goldman, acting in conjunction with Warburg, recommended a leveraged buyout of the whole company at a price above that revealed by a bid by BTR. The board of Tilling, however, decided against the plan.

Woolworth Holdings is a classic opportunity for the Goldman team to demonstrate its skills, particularly in valuation and real estate. The debate about what Woolworth is really worth is raging in the City. Most agree that it is worth more than the present Dixons offer and more than the market price. But how is that to be assessed?

Goldman Sachs is content to stick to its niche in defence work, and does not consider the issue of which merchant bank takes the lead role as relevant. It detects changes in the British takeover scene, similar to the trend in America. More British takeovers are being decided on economic rather than management grounds and shareholders are taking an increasingly short-term view.

Mr Sachs says: "At some price the offeror will get the company. The defence has to produce a competitive value to shareholders, which in effect means being its own white knight."

Fears grow over the financing of leveraged buyouts

By Jeremy Warner
Business Correspondent

When the management of National Freight offered to buy the company from the Government for £50 million, it fired the imagination of ambitious executives all over the country. Suddenly it seemed there was a chance of managing and controlling their companies free from the deadweight and priorities of large corporations.

That was five years ago. Since then, management buyouts both in size and number have mushroomed to the degree that fears are now openly expressed in industry and the City about the way they are financed.

Some bankers are worried that if the present trend in "leveraged" buyouts continues, a significant proportion of British industry could become overburdened with debt. And the result of that, they believe, could be an economy progressively starved of necessary capital investment coupled with a disproportionately large number of company failures during the next economic downturn.

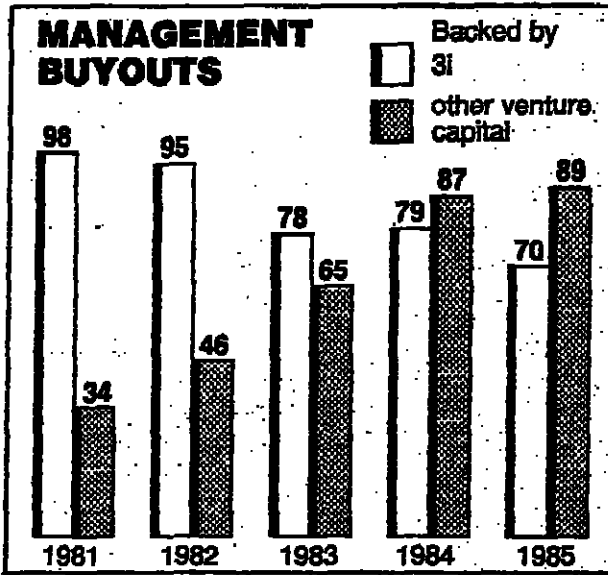
Management buyouts in Britain are rarely what their name implies, a management-financed purchase of a company from its previous owners. In most cases, the amount of equity involved in the buyout is small and the management's stake in the equity is even smaller.

The great bulk of the purchase price is financed by debt. This is provided by bankers and institutions, generally in return for a slice of the equity.

Typical buyout investors look for companies in mature industries which are rich in assets and strong on cash flow. Such companies can tolerate much higher levels of debt than those in sunrise industries with uncertain markets and high capital expenditure programmes.

It is also instructive to recall that the Government was in no great rush to bring interest rates down last year from their early 1985 crisis level of 14 per cent. Indeed, most in the financial markets were extremely surprised by the tardiness with which interest rates were allowed to fall.

There have been some spectacular successes recently. Westbury, the Cheltenham-based housebuilder, is now



being brought to the stock market on a £40 million valuation, having been bought out from its founding family for £12 million only a year ago.

But too often it does not work quite like that. One recent example of failure is the Berliet bra manufacturer.

According to investors in Industry 31, Britain's leading

ber, size, and experience of leveraged deals is much greater than in Britain, this is already causing serious concern.

Dr Henry Kaufman, the economic guru at Salomon Brothers, recently drew attention to the significant contraction in the equity base of American industry and its replacement with debt.

He said that the equity base of US corporations contracted by \$100 billion in 1984 as a result of mergers, acquisitions and leveraged buyouts.

"The addition to corporate debt exceeded that to corporate equity (retained earnings plus new equity issuance) by a record margin and re-establishes an unwholesome trend that became so noticeable in the second half of the 1970s," he said.

He also dismissed the argument that contraction or retirement of shares makes available equity more scarce and therefore supports equity prices making it easier to raise capital.

In fact, "continuous rapid debt expansion inhibits share values because of the mounting debt burden it inflicts on corporations and because investors are offered a wide-ranging menu of fixed income investments as alternatives to equities."

In Britain things have not reached that stage — yet. But there are ominous signs. First there was the all-cash £1.8 billion bid by Elders DLI of Australia for Allied Lyons.

Economy might be starved of capital investment

buyout specialist, only one in seven buyouts fails in Britain which compares very favourably with start-ups where the failure rate is more like one in four.

Furthermore, in the experience of 31, excessive debt is rarely the cause of a failure though it can hasten the end. A much more common cause of collapse is management strain and inability to cope with the unbridled cost of the old parent company's costs.

Nevertheless, leveraged deals can and do lead to undercapitalized industry with the result that decisions on investment are put off or abandoned altogether. By the time the buyout debt is paid off, managers and investors may find that all they are left with is a burnt-out old company using technology that is 10 years out of date.

In the US, where the num-

That bid is currently being examined by the Monopolies and Mergers Commission, largely because of Bank of England concern that if leveraged transactions on this scale caught on, it would not be long before a significant shift occurred in the way British industry is financed.

Recent figures from Venture Economics show that the amount of finance provided for management buyouts nearly doubled last year from £255 million in 1984 to £493 million. These statistics exclude 31, the largest operator in the market, so the true sum must be rather higher.

This year, the amount of money committed to buyouts is set to double again if current trends are anything to go by.

Should the authorities step in before it is too late? The nearest Bank of England has ever come to issuing guidelines in this area is in its *Money for Business* booklet in which it states that a 50 per cent debt/equity ratio is tolerable but double that may be the danger level.

Management buyouts hinge on much higher ratios than this with three to one and four

Role for the Bank to watch expanding credit

to one thought of as not unreasonable by venture capitalists. This sort of financing looks highly conservative compared with ratios of up to 10 to one on many of the larger buyouts in the US.

The Bank of England clearly believes it would be wrong to attempt to establish prudential guidelines for companies in this area. This would take it into the contentious field of industrial supervision.

The Bank nevertheless has a role to play in the matter of rapidly expanding credit to industry if there is clear evidence that this is becoming a substitute for capital.

Some sort of public statement outside the evidence the Bank is no doubt giving to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission on the Allied Lyons bid, may be called for in the not too distant future. For the moment British

venture capitalists tend to argue that there is no cause for concern since the management buyout business has not reached anything like US proportions.

Furthermore, in only one buyout so far, the £173 million Mardon Packaging buyout from BAT Industries, did the degree of leverage approach US levels and in that instance it did so because the initiative for the deal came largely from Mardon's American offspring.

Mr Charles Gonsor, head of Citicorp's increasingly active British venture capital arm, argues that US financing techniques will never be fully imported here despite the influx of American players into the City, simply because the banking environment is more conservative and "risk averse".

But he concedes that increasingly fierce competition for management buyout business has meant much higher prices for companies and this, in turn, has put greater pressure on the financiers to gear up the deals.

Mr Pat Martin, senior vice-president of Bankers Trust, another US bank which has become active in the British management buyout scene, thinks there is a strong possibility of American techniques being brought in.

Higher prices for companies mean inevitably that an extra "mezzanine" layer of debt has to be injected into the deal in order to get the same level of equity return on the transactions, he argues.

In the US, this debt has taken the form of unsecured, subordinated loans usually with an extremely high coupon attached to make it attractive to the institutions. A big secondary market, pioneered by Drexel Burnham Lambert has developed in this "junk finance".

To date, however, British institutions and bankers have proved reluctant providers of such high-risk debt. One exception was the £57.5 million buyout of the Haden contract engineering group in which high yielding unsecured loans were used.

With more and more venture capitalists attempting to climb on to the management buyout bandwagon, the pressure for mezzanine finance is growing.

"If you want my guess, the mezzanine boys will be in the London market by the end of the year," Mr Martin says.

Blue Arrow has Hoggett in its sights

Attention this week has focused on employment agencies. Hoggett Bowers, the executive recruitment agency featured in this column in February as a good buy at 64p, had moved to 106p before the shares were suspended on Friday, with an announcement that the company is in talks with a buyer in a full bid.

The hot favourite to bid for Hoggett, among the punters at least, is one of the other Unlisted Securities Market employment agencies, Blue Arrow.

Blue Arrow is one of the most successful stocks on the USM. It was floated in 1984 when it encompassed an employment agency network strongly orientated towards the provision of commercial and industrial temporary staff, and it also had interests in holiday tour operations.

The four operations were making losses, and they were sold shortly after flotation. Since then the group has made a number of acquisitions, mostly on the employment agency side. In 1985 Blue Arrow acquired Reliance for £7.7 million, which was more orientated towards the provision of office workers, and in December it bought Brook Street Bureau, the best known staff employment agency.

The Brook Street Bureau acquisition more than doubled the Blue Arrow outlets — from 70 to 156 today — but Brook Street was nothing like as profitable as Blue Arrow. The Blue Arrow management style showed considerably improved returns by cutting overheads and providing incentives for staff at branch level.

Phillips & Drew, the company's broker, estimates that Blue Arrow will make pretax profits of £7.2 million in the year to October, 1986, compared with £2.2 million in 1985. The shares stand on a prospective price-earnings ratio of 17.3 times.

In addition to its acquisitions, there is a story of strong organic growth behind Blue Arrow. The sector of the market in which Blue Arrow operates is growing rapidly, reflecting the expansion in demand for temporary staff.

Although the direct wage costs of temporary employees may be up to 50 per cent more than for permanent staff, this differential falls significantly once total employment costs are considered.

Temporary staff enable management to be much more flexible in numbers employed, so that the use of temporaries extends to a much wider range of employees than shorthand-

typists. Blue Arrow has positioned itself to be a big beneficiary of this trend, and in international terms is still very small.

Hoggett Bowers specializes in executive recruitment. For Blue Arrow it would represent a flagship, completing its coverage of the employment market from top to bottom.

The directors of Hoggett, however, are known not to be keen on going into such a large group and, as they and the

founding families still own more than 50 per cent of the equity, Blue Arrow may have embarked on an uphill task with this particular target.

Another long-running USM takeover candidate has also been taken out this week. Cadbury Schweppes, which last year bought Sodastream, the soft drinks dispenser manufacturer, is now acquiring Canvemoor.

Canvemoor is based in the North-east and manufactures

and distributes soft drinks, mostly to working men's clubs. The profit record has been volatile in the past two years as it was badly affected by the miners' strike in 1984 and the poor summer weather last year. Pretax profits in 1984-85 dropped to £134,000 compared with £403,000 in 1983-84.

Cadbury is offering 95p in cash or loan notes for each Canvemoor ordinary share, valuing the company at £3.93

million, which represents a substantial premium to Canvemoor's net asset value of 64p.

The benefits to Cadbury are that it has enabled the group to extend geographically its drink dispenser interests but, of course, these remain small in relation to the group as a whole.

Isabel Unsworth
The author is a member of the smaller companies unit at Phillips & Drew.

UNLISTED SECURITIES

Company	Price	Change	Open	Close	High	Low	Volume	PE
31	106.00	+1.00	105.00	106.00	106.00	105.00	100	17.3
Blue Arrow	106.00	+1.00	105.00	106.00	106.00	105.00	100	17.3
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Notice to holders of Montana Power International Finance NV Bear Securities

Copies of the annual Reports of Montana Power International Finance NV and The Montana Power Company and the Montana Power Company Annual Report to the Securities and Exchange Commission on Form 10-K are available upon request from:

THE MONTANA POWER COMPANY

Attn: Russell J. Cox
40 East Broadway
Bottle, Montana 59701
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BASE LENDING RATES	
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Adm. & Comm.	10.50%
Bank	10.50%
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C. House & Co.	10.50%
Hong Kong & Shanghai	10.50%
Lloyds Bank	10.50%
Mid Western	10.50%
Royal Bank of Scotland	10.50%
TSP	10.50%
City Bank NA	10.50%

Portfolio - Gold -

From your portfolio card check your eight share price movements. Add them up to give you your overall total. Check this against the daily dividend figure published on this page. If it matches you have won outright or a share of the total daily prize money. If you are a winner, follow the claim procedure on the back of your card. You must always have your card available when claiming.

No.	Company	Group	Gain or loss
1	Ud Biscuits	Foods	
2	Third Mile	Industries S-Z	
3	Cashe (S)	Drugs, Stores	
4	Anchor Chemical	Chemicals, Plastics	
5	BETEC	Industries A-D	
6	Holles Bros	Industries E-K	
7	Roaprint	Industries L-R	
8	Highland Biscuits	Industries S-Z	
9	DPCE	Industries A-D	
10	Bespak	Industries A-D	
11	Br Pavelem	Oil	
12	Hunting Group	Industries E-K	
13	Rafalica	Industries E-K	
14	Brown (John)	Industries A-D	
15	Stochall	Industries S-Z	
16	Avon Rubber	Industries A-D	
17	Silentsight	Industries S-Z	
18	Reed Executive	Industries L-R	
19	Relyon	Industries L-R	
20	Electronic Mach	Electricals	
21	Ford Motor	Motors/Aircraft	
22	Assor Heat	Industries A-D	
23	Metal Closures	Industries L-R	
24	Enterprise	Oil	
25	Loxair	Electricals	
26	Brill	Oil	
27	Burtonwood Brew	Breweries	
28	Jones (Ernest)	Drugs, Stores	
29	RHP	Industries L-R	
30	Fobel	Industries E-K	
31	Raybeck	Drugs, Stores	
32	Independent	Newspapers, Pub	
33	Harris (Philip)	Industries E-K	
34	Oliver (G)	Drugs, Stores	
35	Aberdeen Constr	Building, Roads	
36	Hardys & Hanson	Breweries	
37	APV	Industries A-D	
38	Br Benzol	Chemicals, Plastics	
39	Home Counties	Newspapers, Pub	
40	Wood (Arthur)	Industries S-Z	
41	Ud Leasing	Electricals	
42	Warminster CT	Building, Roads	
43	Waterford Glass	Industries S-Z	
44	Thomson	Oil	
45	Tates Newspapers Ltd.	Daily Total	

Please be sure to take account of any minus signs

Weekly Dividend
Please make a note of your daily totals for the weekly dividend of £8,000 in Saturday's newspaper.

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	WEEKLY

BRITISH FUNDS

Stock out-
standing

Price Change
Daily

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Capitalization and week's change

(Current market price multiplied by the number of shares in issue for the stock quoted)
ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings begin today. Dealings end May 30. Contango day June 2. Settlement day June 9.
§Forward bargains are permitted on two previous business days.

STOCK EXCHANGE PRICES

Capitalization

Company

Price

Change

Gain or

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May 12, 1986

Pulling out all the stops

Today British Rail ends the hassle of changing trains and stations in London on many InterCity journeys between the Northwest, the Midlands and Kent and Sussex.

Each weekday seven InterCity trains each way cut across west London via Kensington Olympia, directly connecting main centres north and south of the Thames in journey times that a law-abiding motorist taking the long, M25 way around the capital cannot better.

A Mancunian can be in Croydon for a business appointment within 3½ hours, for example; or grandparents living in retirement in Brighton with their family in Birmingham in only three hours.

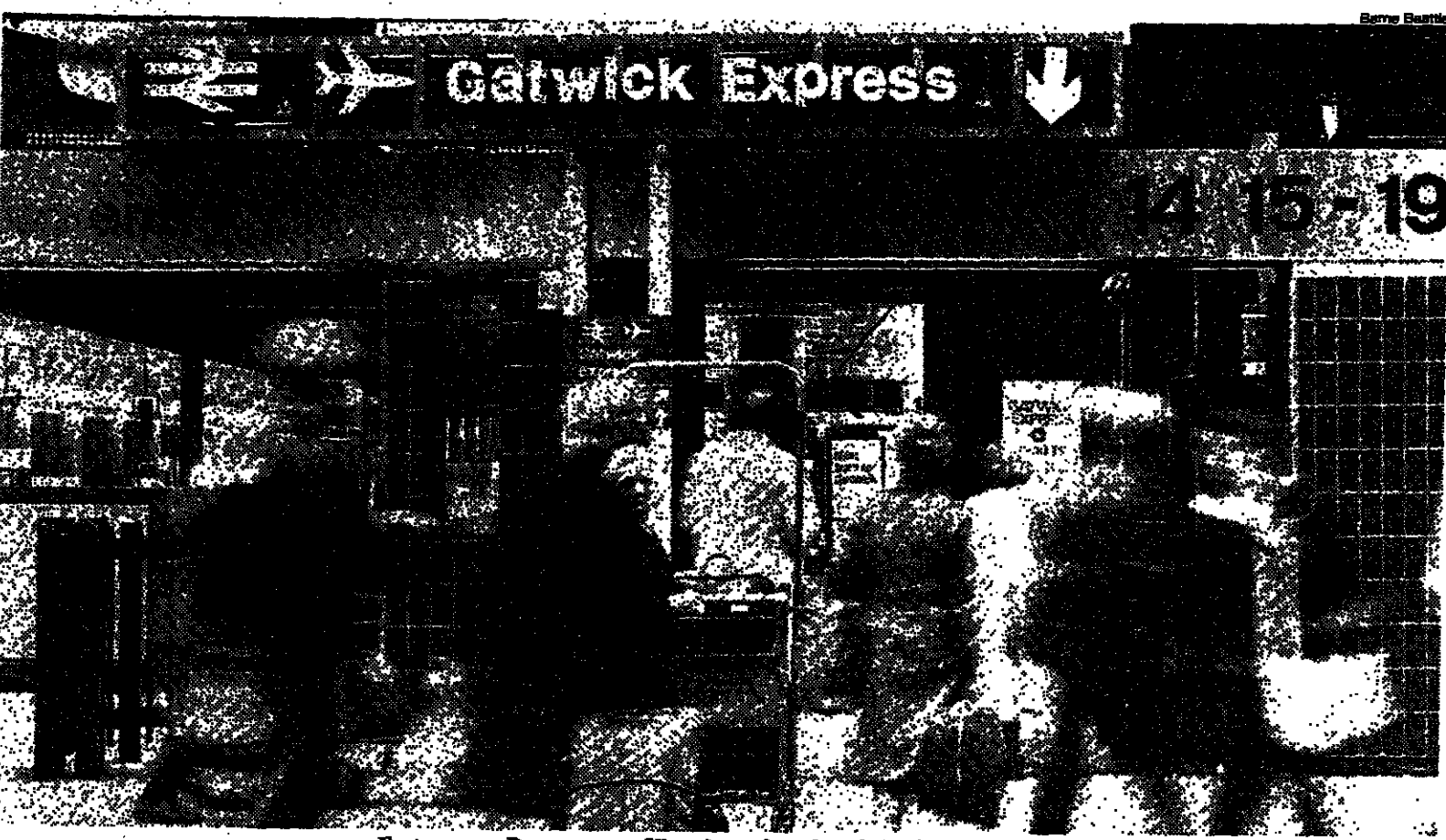
At a stroke the Manchester-Gatwick Airport or Brighton rail journey has been shortened by more than 1½ hours through the new InterCity route's maximum use of the 100 mph electrified main line to inner London. South of the capital, where the electrification system is different, diesel locomotives have to take over; but these can run at 90 mph wherever track and traffic allow.

All these cross-London trains use modern air-conditioned coaches, and most include a buffet car.

The new trains call variously at Milton Keynes, Watford Junction, Clapham Junction, East Croydon and Bromley South in outer London.

Besides enhancing their value in provincial markets — not only for travel to the towns named, but with simple change of train at Clapham or Bromley, for trips to almost anywhere on the Southern Region — this makes InterCity an attractive medium for shorter-distance, cross-London journeys. Watford Junction is now less than an hour away from East Croydon, only 100 minutes from Brighton; and Milton Keynes is within 2½ hours rail travel of Dover.

All trains in both directions stop at the substantially redeveloped Kensington Olympia station. That puts InterCity on the threshold of the West



Fast movers: Passengers at Victoria ready to board the Gatwick Express

London exhibition complexes and hotel belt, of Kensington's museums and of Knightsbridge's shops. Furthermore, the station's proximity to the M4 and M40 exits and its greatly expanded 450,000 sq ft space car park, allied to the new cross-London service, commend it to a considerable swathe of London suburbs as an InterCity starting point.

For that matter, arriving InterCity passengers can easily arrange to drive on to their ultimate destination. Kensington Olympia has been added to the 70 InterCity stations where Europcar's worldwide car rental operation has a Raildrive base. Pre-booked at any Europcar office, a self-drive car will be placed to meet any train a customer specifies.

The cross-London InterCity schedules and the trains' stops have been adroitly framed to bracket simultaneously a number of travel markets.

Thus the day's first northbound train starts from Newhaven at 6.25 to meet the Sealink night boat from Dieppe (the last one southbound connects with the outward boat). But then, calling at Haywards Heath, Gatwick Airport, East Croydon and Clapham Junction from 06.50 to 7.35, this early departure becomes a useful business travel medium from Sussex and Surrey to the Potteries and Manchester (which it reaches at 10.41) or, with a same-platform change of train at Watford Junction, the West Midlands.

Reinforcement of the al-

ready powerful InterCity presence at Gatwick Airport is a major objective of the cross-London innovation. Four trains in each direction stop there, and at times which mesh with the airport's morning and evening peaks of departures and arrivals.

Provincial users of Gatwick are not the only beneficiaries: the new trains put Gatwick within 40-45 minutes' rail travel of Kensington Olympia, little more than an hour away from Watford Junction.

With the wide range of cross-country journeys it simplifies and accelerates, and

with the further inducement of Saver fares, the new InterCity service is bound to make most impact in the leisure travel market. There its appeal extends to continental as well as domestic journeys: a third of BR's passenger traffic to the Channel ports originates north of London.

Dover Western Docks is the terminus of the two morning trains from Manchester and the one from Liverpool; and three trains return from Dover to the North West. The Dover arrivals and departures are planned to connect with the Jetfoil and conventional ferry services to and from Ostend; and there with the Continental railways' long-haul passenger network.

With Jetfoil over the Channel, Brussels can still be

reached at 20.00 from the latest of the Dover trains from the North West, the 9.25 from Manchester, and even Cologne before midnight.

Thus the prime benefit will be for travellers to Belgium, the Netherlands and the Rhineland, though there are also good connections at Ostend with overnight trains to centres in the Continental heartland. The new service has the backing of European Saver five-day return fares for a wide range of journeys: Birmingham-Brussels £54, for example, or Manchester-Brussels £64, in all cases plus £6 for each one-way use of Jetfoil.

G Freeman Allen
Editor
Janes' World Railways

Goodbye to the railway sandwich

Dr John Prideaux, who was appointed BR's InterCity director in February, takes over a business on an upward curve, carrying more passengers than at any time in British express train history. But despite a 1985-86 revenue improvement of 3 per cent in real terms, the business is being pressed to achieve its government-set target of a 5 per cent return on assets by 1988-89.

Stimulation of more revenue growth through product improvement, Dr Prideaux believes, can close much of the gap.

"I'm obsessive about quality," he says. "Overall it's good. On most routes I can get people to the heart of London twice as fast as the plane and more reliably and comfortably. That's why our Leeds and Tees-Tyne Pullmans have taken a great deal of business from the air services."

"Remember that a plane has to touch down at least 15 minutes adrift before an airline admits it is late. If an InterCity 125 is 15 minutes late I have fuming passengers stamping up and down the corridors."

Reliability is admittedly below par on routes into Euston. Recreparation there should begin with timetable simplifications in 1987-88 and be completed in 1989 after new locomotives have replaced now-fallible models of the 1960s. Dr Prideaux is bent on eradicating all operational vulnerabilities from InterCity timetables, though he stresses that some present day-to-day flaws are traceable not to imperfect plan, but to inattention to detail, which can and will be put right.

As for on-train quality, Dr Prideaux has already put in hand improved seat designs. Numerous innovations are contemplated in the next generation of MkIV cars to equip the East Coast main line electrifications.

The new InterCity catering system's transfer of all food preparation, save the British breakfast, to ground kitchens will transform on-train service as well as the range of wares

on offer. "When the staff are no longer tied to a kitchen, we shall expect them to provide continuous at-seat trolley service throughout the train. And there will be no excuse for shutting down that service long before the train reaches its terminus," says Dr Prideaux.

"We're trying to bury the old 'railway sandwich'," he adds with relish, promising that its successor, produced exclusively in the ground kitchens, will rival in choice of filling, freshness and packaging the best offered over chain-store counters. Also to be introduced in favour of a better product is what currently passes in train buffets for tea and coffee. Already this summer the menus will feature regional specialities — cream teas, for instance, on West Country InterCity 125s.

Another innovation will be regional catering staff dress, to the extent even of a tartan rig on a couple of Anglo-Scottish services. This is no mere window-dressing but, along with identification of personnel to passengers by name, a move to intensify the pride in the job which the quality and customer-care scope of the new system ought to generate. Also for the sake of customer care and job satisfaction, proposals may soon be put to the



Dr John Prideaux: Pressing targets to be met

Continued on next page

InterCity's new Cross London service closes the gap between the North and the South.

Until now, travellers between the North West and South East of England faced a gap in their journey. London. It meant stopping off to change trains to get across London. But all that has changed. Now, for the first time, there is a direct InterCity link between Manchester and Liverpool in the North West; Brighton, Newhaven and Dover in the South East.

InterCity's new Cross London service is running regularly through the capital via the new InterCity station at Kensington Olympia. A service that's improving travel for InterCity's passengers. Fulfilling InterCity's commitment to bridging gaps in travel.

We're getting there
InterCity

and the South.

An easier run from Olympia

The new Intercity station at Kensington Olympia will free travellers from further afield as well as residents of West London from the nightmare of crossing London to start a new rail journey.

Part of the impetus for the new facility — and the astonishing speed with which it has materialised — has been the instant popularity of the new motorways which the M25 and M4 are bringing a stream of traffic in from the "silicon valleys" of the Thames Valley and north Hampshire as well as Bristol, Wales and the West Country.

Car commuters can park their vehicles at one of the 450 spaces (which will have a concessionary charge of £2.50 a day) and connect with an Intercity train to go to Coventry, Birmingham, Stoke, Liverpool or Manchester in one direction or Gatwick Airport or the Channel ports in the other. Equally, rail travellers from any of these destinations can now alight at the new station and continue their journey by a new underground service to all parts of London.

Like all Intercity services, the new station has been designed mainly to meet business requirements. Proximity to the Olympia exhibition complex and the revival which this 100-year-old venue has had under its recent owners, P&O, in attracting foreign as well as British business delegates was an important factor in British Rail's decision to upgrade the former motor-rail terminal at Kensington Olympia.

Exhibitions along with conferences are now regarded as big business. On a national scale the industry is estimated

as generating substantially more than £1 billion worth of expenditure a year and growing. The British Tourist Authority is expecting a 40 per cent increase in the numbers of business visitors from overseas this year as compared with 1982.

Its comparatively central location at the junction of Hammersmith and South Kensington has meant that Olympia has always been popular with overseas visitors to such major events as the International Showjumping Championships, the World Travel Market or the International Bike Show. The complex draws a world audience of more than 1 million visitors annually of whom at least 75,000 are identified as coming from abroad.

The success since the opening in August, 1984 of Olympia 2, a newly-refurbished hall within the existing complex has surprised even the owners.

Encouraged by the return on its investment in the exhibition halls, Tim Harris, chairman and managing director of the Earls Court and Olympia company, has announced plans for a new conference centre. Integrated with the exhibition complex, the main auditorium will be able to seat up to 450 delegates.

The first phase of the new conference unit is scheduled to open next year and Mr Harris regards the new rail and underground service — which will bring Olympia within a 39 minute journey

Both Earls Court and Olympia were originally developed as exhibition sites with the time of Gatwick Airport for instance — as a decided advantage.

railways very much in mind. Olympia has a covered walkway linking it to the station; the walkway as well as its own multi-storey car park (one of the first of its kind in Europe) remains a part of the new design. Earls Court, a mile or so down the line, has lost its main line rail station although its underground, which gives it a direct link to Heathrow Airport, survives and has been refurbished. The design for the new hall provides, however, for the possibility of the BR station being reopened and for the link with express train services re-established.

Mr Harris may hate to admit it, since he considers it to be a deadly business rival, but the National Exhibition Centre at Birmingham will also benefit from the new

cross-London service. Under the new timetable, prospective delegates can leave their cars at Kensington Olympia and catch a train at 11.21 am which will arrive via Milton Keynes Central and Coventry at Birmingham International at 13.04. The new service will also provide a new link from, say Surrey or Sussex or one-off

Covered walkway to the station

events such as the Stoke Garden Festival which is expected to attract more than 4 million visitors in total, as well as to the conference and exhibition centre at Brighton.

In its design the new station at Kensington-Olympia reflects the requirements of

international business executives. Travellers will be able to buy through tickets to continental destinations once a new computer-linked ticketing installation comes into operation. They will also be able to reserve seats on trains which will pass through the station en route between the North West and Midlands to the

Channel ports of Folkestone and Dover via Gatwick Airport and onwards into the heart of Europe.

A new weekday service will link the station to popular school party destinations such as the museums at South Kensington three stops along the District Line or the Houses of Parliament and Big Ben at Westminster.

Patricia Tisdall



Smarter service: Chief steward Anthony Pullin serves breakfast to the chairman of BR Engineering Philip Norman, on the new-style Pullman

All aboard the Sunny Express

Cross-London Intercity re-generates a route pioneered by the London North Western and London Brighton & South Coast Railways in 1904. By then two-thirds of the nation could rise to an annual holiday, and with the less well-off crowding resorts nearest their workplaces, the Northern middle class not flush enough to travel abroad was seeking refuge in the South's more genteel watering-places.

Sensing that this growth market was being stunted by the scramble for porters and cabs to transfer the weight of an Edwardian family's holiday baggage between London stations, the two railways collaborated in a through coach working between Liverpool, Brighton and Eastbourne.

Such was the response to this 1904 summer venture that the following March it burgeoned into a full-blown train, complete with restaurant car, combining portions from Liverpool, Manchester and Birmingham. At first it was called the Sunny South Special, and was later known as the Sunny South Express.

The Sunny South was cancelled during the First World War but reappeared in 1922, again running daily but becoming a progressively more complex operation. Sheffield was added to its starting points, Hastings to its destinations, plus the Kent Coast resorts at weekends. In the late 1930s, despite rising car ownership, the Sunny South could proliferate into half-a-dozen separate trains.

The Second World War ended the train's career. Its route was revived for some summer weekend-only cross-country trains, but in the 1960s these gradually succumbed to cheaper and quicker motorways, and to Beeching's abhorrence of high-season extra trains which earned less than it cost BR to maintain their infrequently-used coaches.

Cross-London Intercity is blameless on either count. It is a daily operation, making full productive use of assets and appealing to more than one sizeable market sector. And between Manchester and Brighton it beats the 1939 Sunny South schedule of around six and a quarter hours by more than two hours.

G F A

New additions

Two new Intercity railway stations open today. They are: Telford-Central on the London-Wolverhampton-Shrewsbury rail route, and Tiverton Parkway in Devon

G F A

The keynote now is quality

Continued from previous page

unions for an upgrading of the status and training of all staff dealing with passengers.

Overcrowding of some peak trains is an almost intractable problem (though Dr Prideaux claims that only three Intercity passengers in every thousand cannot find a seat). But it will be eased, he says.

The productivity of the Intercity 125 train-sets is being yet further lifted by revising overhaul schedules and introducing repair-by-component-replacement practice. This releases two additional sets for the cross-country Intercity 125 route and generally expands the resources to meet peak demand on the high revenue-earning routes. In the MkIV cars to come, the risk of having to stand is quite likely to be minimized further through the installation of tip-up seats in vestibules.

"We shall make the most of the extra availability of rolling stock we are promised by BR's production departments, and run as many extra trains as we can to provide capacity when people want to travel," says Dr Prideaux.

"But if we still cannot comfortably carry all the people who want to travel on Friday night, then, as I'm determined on a quality service, I would rather price up a bit to make sure Friday passengers get a comfortable ride."

It is partly in that light that from today the higher-priced Saver ticket rate is enforced for any return journey involving Friday travel, back to starting point as well as outward.

Cross-London Intercity travel equals Anglo-Scottish for volume, and the director regards today's through train development as only a first step in easing the deterrent of

an in-town change of trains and stations. Similar links between the East Coast main line and the South may well be forged after the 1988 launch of the cross-London suburban service via the rehabilitated and electrified Snow Hill tunnel between Moorgate and Blackfriars.

After his term as BR's West Midlands manager, Dr Prideaux left that area's Intercity stations the richest for car-parking room in the network.

"You must first of all be well signposted to an Intercity station, then not only be able to drive to it, but confident you can park at it," he insists. "That we now aim to make a certainty throughout the Intercity system, including stations astride the M25 and above all at London termini."

At least three more new Parkway stations are under consideration, one on the M25, a second on the East Coast, and the third on the West Coast main line.

Development of Intercity station amenities absorbs attention. The right mix of trading concessions not only contributes to station operating costs, but, more importantly, appeals to passengers. Major development schemes are in the offing at key provincial stations to parallel those now under way in London's Paddington and Victoria.

G F A

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True ☐ False ☐



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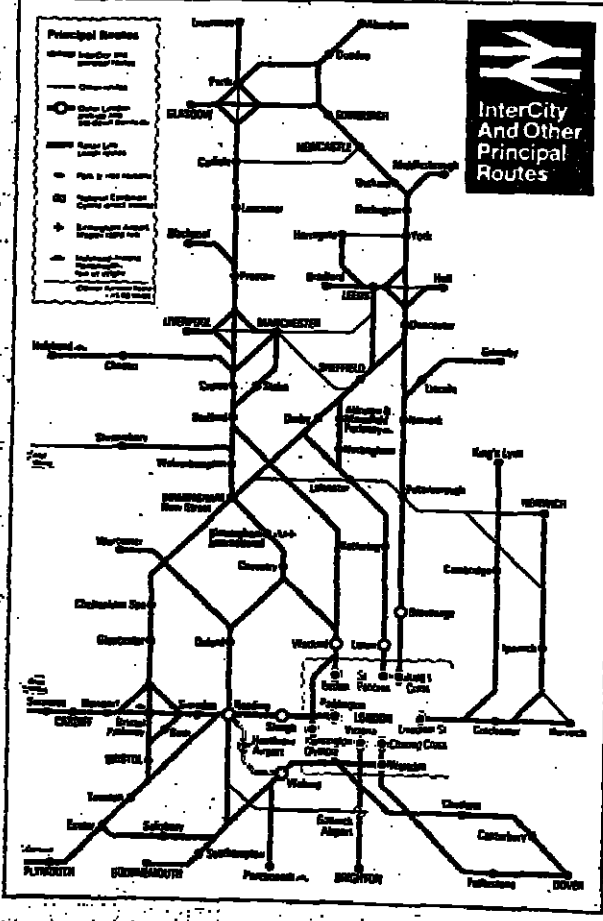
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INTERCITY PROGRESS/3

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It was one of the first airports to incorporate a railway station. But the elderly, rickety trains and a timetable geared to office workers rather than air travellers did not endear the service to the airlines. Connection by rail was rarely advertised to holidaymakers let alone to high-spending business executives.

Since May 1984, however, the service has been transformed. In the form of a clean, fast, and easy-to-use direct service seems to have been well rewarded. Although ordinary rail travellers might grumble about the fares, there is no doubt that air passengers like it and that the volume of business has increased.

A passenger survey carried out last June shows that the number of travellers using the route had more than doubled in little over a year after the improvements were introduced.

Research carried out in March 1984 just before the non-stop, round-the-clock service came into effect, showed that around three million passengers were using the London to Gatwick route annually. By June 1985, the total was seven million.

The 1985 survey also proved the importance of the Gatwick to Victoria rail route in terms of national prestige - Gatwick is an important gateway to the United Kingdom, and the BR survey showed

that more than a third of all passengers between the airport and Victoria Station in London were foreign nationals, many of them visiting Britain for the first time.

The high-speed trains take just 30 minutes to travel between London Victoria and Gatwick and vice versa. Services leave Victoria every 15 minutes between 05.30 and 22.00 and operate throughout the night on an hourly basis.

Next to "speed", "convenience and simplicity" were main reasons for using the Gatwick rail service uncovered by BR researchers. A separate ticket office and clearly marked platforms at Victoria Station are a big help, particularly for passengers who may have problems with language or who, like most North Americans, are unfamiliar with rail travel.

Visitors also find the non-stop aspect of the new service reassuring. They do not have to worry about getting off at the wrong station or, once they have settled down, get disturbed by people getting on and off at other destinations. The trolley-type buffet with an attendant who dispenses drinks and snacks also seems to work well and saves passengers struggling up and down the aisles with hot beverages. A new service which may be introduced shortly depending



Speaking up: Passengers wait to use the phone on the Merseyside Pullman

on the outcome of experiments at present in progress, will be telephones on trains.

Luggage however is still a problem. The new trains have extra-wide doors which make it easier to manoeuvre suitcases on and off the platform. British Caledonian, one of the biggest airlines based at Gatwick, offers check-in facilities at Victoria Station which relieve their customers from heavy luggage before they join the train.

Business executives who travel frequently (and who do not tend to take a lot of

luggage with them) are regarded as important customers by both the airlines and increasingly by British Rail. The BR passenger survey last year showed that at least 30 per cent of foreigners and 20 per cent of the UK residents using the Gatwick Airport to Victoria rail service were travelling on business.

Four express services in each direction will connect the North West and Midlands direct to Gatwick. This will, for instance, bring industrial capitals like Manchester within less than four hours away in

terms of journey time while, for Birmingham, the new timetable cuts a journey time of 3 hours 36 minutes. For West Londoners, the express services will give a new link to Gatwick from Kensington Olympia as an alternative to Victoria Station. People living or working in East London will have access via a new direct service from London Bridge which will take only four minutes longer than the 30 minutes from Victoria, but avoid the necessity to cross the city centre.

Recognition that the rail

link is likely to appeal to business executives is shown in recent publicity issued by the airlines who operate out of Gatwick Airport. British Caledonian, for instance, is including a first-class return rail ticket between Gatwick and Victoria Station in its Business Travellers' packages.

In a promotion operated in conjunction with British Rail, Virgin Atlantic are offering unrestricted return tickets from any station in England, Scotland, or Wales to Gatwick Airport for a special price of £19. First-class tickets are on offer for £29.

It is little more than a decade since London Transport discovered that tourists could be a blessing in terms of generating extra revenue (rather than a blight which merely inconvenienced commuters). Since then regular travellers too have gained from dramatic improvements in standards of the signposting, cleanliness, and attractiveness of Underground stations which stemmed partly from the drive to attract more traffic from overseas visitors. The improvements introduced on the London to Gatwick Airport service are an indication that British Rail users could be about to enjoy a similar transformation.

Patricia Tisdall

Now for the age of the 180 mph train

The InterCity brand name was coined in 1966 for the send-off of BR's first 100 mph electric service from London to Liverpool and Manchester. But there was more to the launch than a new form of power and a sharp lift of train speed.

Maximizing electric traction's capacity for uninterrupted work, BR challenged the flexibility of car use with an intensive train service at fixed intervals throughout the day. Then, to fill the greatly increased number of off-peak trains with new business, BR boldly exploited with marginal pricing the fare-fixing freedom granted by the 1962 Transport Act.

The resulting package of market-priced fare offers was unprecedented. So was deployment of the whole armoury of contemporary marketing and promotion techniques to publicize it.

Regular-interval scheduling, market pricing and professional marketing have since

been not only hallmarks of BR InterCity, but a strategy adopted by continental railways. Some, such as the Dutch, West German and Swiss, have even paid their BR mentors the compliment of appropriating the InterCity logo untransliterated.

Beeching's scepticism on whether InterCity would survive air and motorway advances has been confounded. Granted, InterCity has been scarred on some of its routes by long-haul bus deregulation and driven to counter with over-intricate and sometimes hazily remunerative fare offers.

And government insistence - unique in western Europe - that InterCity return 5 per cent on its assets by 1989, has lately enforced rolling-stock reductions that occasionally

put service quality at risk through overcrowding.

On the other hand, approval of the £306 million east-coast main line electrification now under way suggests that this same government, no overt aficionado of rail transport, is convinced of a viable InterCity's endurance.

Even the London-Scotland air shuttles have been held at bay by InterCity 125 HSTs. These are the diesel-powered 125 mph train sets which BR evolved in the 1970s when it was denied more InterCity electrification, let alone the purpose building of new high-speed lines such as was allowed for the French, German and Italian railways. As yet, InterCity 125 is the only high-speed train in the world to win an export sale, to the railways of New South Wales.

For a fraction of the £1.2

billion which the French spent on their new 170 mph Paris-Lyon line, BR ironed out curves, refined track and resignalled historic InterCity routes so that today Edinburgh is little more than 4½ hours and Newcastle upon Tyne just under three hours from London by the fastest InterCity 125 of the day.

New routes are due to be added

The east coast London-Scotland, London to the West and South Wales, London-East Midlands-Sheffield, and the North-East and North-West to the South-West via Birmingham routes are InterCity 125 territory. New routes may be added when, in 1989, HSTs are displaced between London and Leeds by

electric trains in the first phase of east coast main line electrification. That switch-on may also inaugurate "InterCity 140".

Indeed, the hi-tech "Electra" locomotives ordered for the east coast project, designed initially for 140 mph operation, will have up to 185 mph potential. Matched with coaches of new design by British Rail Engineering, the Electra is therefore being advanced by a British industrial consortium as a contender for London-Paris/Brussels through service over the 185 mph line the French are set to build to their end of the Channel Tunnel.

Comfort has improved along with InterCity speed, but at a rate conditioned both by funding ability and by Department of Transport ac-

ceptance of major investment cases.

A revolution in on-train catering, now directly managed by InterCity, has begun. A new system concentrating almost all preparation in ground-based kitchens makes feasible the simultaneous service of table-set meals and over-the-counter hot dishes.

The revival of meals-at-seats service in the first-class sections of key business trains between London and the North has been equally rewarding. For this InterCity has resurrected the Pullman brand name with its suggestion of customer care.

Coin-operated telephone kiosks are a feature of all Pullman trains. These have just been added to all InterCity's Victoria-Gatwick trains, on which the apparatus will also accept British Telecom credit cards.

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To Managing Director of leading Fashion Company with branches in the West End & North London, to work at Company's Head Office at Wood Green N22.

Must have at least 100 wpm shorthand & 60 wpm typing. Enormous variety of work. Age 20-35. Excellent salary & prospects.

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Mrs Susan Farquharson,
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01-429 1591

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● A long term booking with the opportunity to take up a permanent position.

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For details on 629 4343

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You should be willing to travel on business for three or four nights up to eight times a year; possess a clean driver's licence and be a non-smoker. Minimum qualifications: O Level English and accurate audio typing. We offer a salary of up to £7,500 per annum plus house allowance and private health insurance for a 35-hour week with 28 days annual leave. Training on a Phillips 5020 word processor and other equipment will be provided.

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RACING

Enbarr fancied to maintain Warren Place momentum

By Mandarin

Henry Cecil served notice that his powerful Warren Place team is reaching peak form with that excellent treble at Lingfield Park on Saturday. Now he expects Enbarr to maintain the momentum by opening his account in the Mar Lodge Stakes, the closing event at Windsor's evening meeting.

Enbarr was all the rage for a similar maiden race at Nottingham last month, but after looking all over the winner approaching the final furlong was caught in the last stride by the 20-1 chance, Millicent. The King's Lake colt should have derived much benefit from that outing and is now napped to go one better at the expense of the Dick Hern-trained Starmost, who shaped with promise behind Luna Bid at Salisbury last season.

It often pays to follow Paul Cole's two-year-olds first time out and the in-form Whatcombe trainer may take the Lady Caroline Stakes with his newcomer, Ultra Nova, a daughter of Larkspur who has been showing good speed at home. Mark Usher's Clarentia stayed on too strongly for Marimba at Kempton on 2,000 Guineas Day, but she has to concede 8lb to her rivals here which should tilt the scales in his selection's favour.

However Usher fares with Clarentia, the Lambourn trainer ought to land the:

Dusty Miller Handicap with Holyport Victory, who before his game third under 10st at Redcar on Tuesday, had scored in good style at Brighton.

It was good to see Bill O'Gorman back with a two-year-old winner at Lingfield on Friday when Bestman obliged, and another of his youngsters, Timeswitch, can make a successful first appearance in the E.B.F. Blue Charm Maiden Stakes.

Luca Cumani looks the trainer to follow at Wolverhampton where the talented Italian trainer can complete a double with Barley Bill (3.30) and White It Lasts (4.01).

Barley Bill has won all his three starts this season, and last time out comfortably landed an amateur rider's event at Haydock. He still looks one step ahead of the handicapper and is worth following. His stable companion, While It Lasts, despite a tardy start, managed a third place behind Donna's Dream at Warwick and has plenty of scope for improvement.

Cumani could also be on the mark in the first division of the Pontefract Maiden Mile championship with Dallas, a grey son of Blushing Groom, who is expected to improve on his effort in Newmarket's Wood Ditton Stakes, where he was 12th of the 20 runners behind the impressive Armada.

Leaders on Flat

TRAINERS

P	C	M	H	W	L
H Cecil	13	8	2	0	+0.88
M H Eassey	11	7	7	1	-25.73
G Haward	5	5	5	5	5.35
R Hannan	11	15	5	0	-19.37
M Britton	10	8	15	16	-64.98

JOCKEYS

P	C	M	H	W	L
S Cauthen	23	12	0	0	+15.36
S Cauthen	23	12	0	0	+15.36
P Cook	15	15	0	0	-6.01
T Coles	15	15	0	0	-20.84
R Cuthbert	14	17	0	0	-5.88
G Stanley	15	5	7	0	-21.30

Blinkered first time

WOLVERHAMPTON: 2.30 Lord Pharo, 3.00 Brogan's Answer, 5.00 Insulation, 6.00 Pontefract, 7.15 Mimi, H. Dicker, 8.15 Dorothea, 9.15 Chro, 10.15 Windsor, 11.00 Alton, 12.00 The Stars, 13.00 Lym, 14.00 Irish Dilemma.

Course specialists

PONTEFRAC

TRAINERS: G. Haward, 7 wins from 18 runners, 38.9% M. McCormack, 6 from 32, 25.0% S. Cauthen, 5 from 18, 27.8% J. Cuthbert, 1 from 1, 100%.

JOCKEYS: T. Coles, 13 wins from 55, 23.6% M. Birch, 18 from 177, 10.2% J. Lowe, 18 from 177, 10.2%.

WOLVERHAMPTON

TRAINERS: G. Lewis, 8 from 21, 38.1% N. Vigors, 10 from 45, 22.2% J. Dunlop, 9 from 21, 42.9%.

JOCKEYS: W. Carson, 17 from 85, 20.0% P. Cook, 18 from 85, 19.9% T. Quinn, 10 from 57, 17.5%.

WINDSOR

TRAINERS: H. Cecil, 14 from 39, 35.9% W. O'Gorman, 15 from 55, 27.3% J. Tice, 10 from 49, 20.4%.

JOCKEYS: P. Eddy, 45 from 222, 20.3% W. R. Stewin, 11 from 62, 17.6% T. Tice, 18 from 115, 15.6%.

HEXHAM

TRAINERS: G. Richards, 19 from 81, 23.5% D. Smyth, 8 from 49, 16.3% J. Cuthbert, 31 from 191, 16.2% WINDSOR: G. Stanley, 11 from 32, 34.4% N. Doughty, 12 from 51, 23.5% K. Jones, 14 from 63, 22.2%.

Bering to miss Derby

From Our French Racing Correspondent, Paris

Bering won the Prix Hocquet by a comfortable two lengths, which should have been doubled or trebled at Longchamps yesterday. He was clear entering the final furlong but Garry Moor, by the look of things, was caught by the last Tycoon in the final stages.

He won by two lengths from Toin d'Artois, whom he had beaten by five lengths in the Prix Noyes last month and is now "70 per cent likely" to go for the Prix du Jockey-Club (French Derby) in the opinion of Alec Head, the trainer, whose wife owns the son of Arctic Tern. Bering will be sent to Epsom only if the Derby field looks like being a weak one.

Storm Warning, the only British runner of the day, was

Toca Madera boosts Guineas form

From Our Irish Racing Correspondent, Dublin

The merits of Dancing Brave's 2,000 Guineas victory at Newmarket were handsomely advertised by Toca Madera in the Derrinstown Sand Derby Trial over 10 furlongs at Leopardstown on Saturday. At Newmarket, Toca Madera was beaten almost 10 lengths into ninth place, although Liam Browne, his trainer, was adamant that he got no run at all through the race.

Stephan Craine, the Isle of Man born jockey, who had ridden Toca Madera in all his previous races, was now replaced by Christy Roche at the insistence of John Mulhearn, who now owns the colt. This partnership with Miss Deborah Threadwell, Roche, in his endeavours to keep Toca Madera covered up for as long as possible, also got into difficulties and eventually had to pull him up and move out from the rail to the centre of the track.

While Roche was executing this manoeuvre, Pat Eddery looked on in astonishment, having been elected to set the pace on odds-on favourite, Wise Counsel, had established a lead of a couple of lengths but Toca Madera quickened and, getting on terms inside the final furlong, looked likely to go clear. This time, however, the last of his stamina even in a slow run came back and Wise Counsel was coming back at him close to the line to be beaten a head.

This victory in a group two pattern race was a triumph for small money over large investment. Toca Madera had been sold as a yearling for £500 and

Saturday's results

Lingfield Park

1.25, 1.50, 2.00, 2.30, 3.00, 3.30, 4.00, 4.30, 5.00, 5.30, 6.00, 6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30, 9.00, 9.30, 10.00, 10.30, 11.00, 11.30, 12.00, 12.30, 13.00, 13.30, 14.00, 14.30, 15.00, 15.30, 16.00, 16.30, 17.00, 17.30, 18.00, 18.30, 19.00, 19.30, 20.00, 20.30, 21.00, 21.30, 22.00, 22.30, 23.00, 23.30, 24.00, 24.30, 25.00, 25.30, 26.00, 26.30, 27.00, 27.30, 28.00, 28.30, 29.00, 29.30, 30.00, 30.30, 31.00, 31.30, 32.00, 32.30, 33.00, 33.30, 34.00, 34.30, 35.00, 35.30, 36.00, 36.30, 37.00, 37.30, 38.00, 38.30, 39.00, 39.30, 40.00, 40.30, 41.00, 41.30, 42.00, 42.30, 43.00, 43.30, 44.00, 44.30, 45.00, 45.30, 46.00, 46.30, 47.00, 47.30, 48.00, 48.30, 49.00, 49.30, 50.00, 50.30, 51.00, 51.30, 52.00, 52.30, 53.00, 53.30, 54.00, 54.30, 55.00, 55.30, 56.00, 56.30, 57.00, 57.30, 58.00, 58.30, 59.00, 59.30, 60.00, 60.30, 61.00, 61.30, 62.00, 62.30, 63.00, 63.30, 64.00, 64.30, 65.00, 65.30, 66.00, 66.30, 67.00, 67.30, 68.00, 68.30, 69.00, 69.30, 70.00, 70.30, 71.00, 71.30, 72.00, 72.30, 73.00, 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GOLF: CLARK HAS LEARN'T THE VALUE OF RETAINING HIS YORKSHIRE RESILIENCE WHEN UNDER PRESSURE

Sellberg drives home Swedish message as he scores a first

By Mitchell Platt

Ove Sellberg, of Sweden, won the Epsom Grand Prix match play tournament when he overcame Howard Clark 3 and 2 in the final at St Pierre, Chesham, yesterday. Sellberg's victory, which was worth £25,000, was the first by a Swede on the PGA European Tour and it supported the claim of Tony Jacklin, the European Ryder Cup captain, that a Swede would be in the team against the United States next season.

Clark, who won the Madrid Open two weeks ago, began by holing a putt of 28 feet for a birdie. Sellberg, displaying no signs of nerves, followed him in from 20 feet for a half, then set the pattern for the match by holing a putt of 10 feet for a winning birdie at the second. Another birdie at the 12th took Sellberg two ahead and Clark missed chances on the 14th and 15th greens before the match ended at the next hole.

Clark, who was in a fashion similar to that of Steve Davis in the recent world snooker championship, was obliged to overcome a succession of formidable opponents before moving through to the final.

Even before he faced and defeated Sandy Lyle on the last green in the semi-final yesterday morning the determined Yorkshireman had been required to beat Jose Rivero, of Spain, Bernard Gallacher and David Feherty.

Sellberg, too, must have increased the faith in his own game, especially after moving

past Nick Faldo in the first round, then in overcoming his competitors Anders Forsbrand, 3 and 2, in the quarter-final, which demonstrated the vast improvement in the Swedish golfer.

Lyle began the tournament as the favourite. He struggled throughout the week on the greens, which is understandable, as he was seeking to adapt to a new foreign to him after almost four months in the United States, where the putting surfaces are appreciably slicker.

Lyle was one up with five holes to play but Clark struck a marvellous three-wood second shot to the 14th (521 yards), for which his reward was a birdie four, and Lyle contrived to miss from five feet so that the match was all square.

Lyle might have moved ahead again at the 16th but his attempt for a winning birdie from 10 feet veered left as he prepared to walk forward and pick the ball out of the hole. Clark, who had chipped in to beat Lyle at the first hole in the Glasgow Open last August, produced another dagger thrust here by holing a 12-foot putt for a birdie at the 17th which ended the resistance of his rival.

Forsbrand gained sweet compensation for failing to reach the final when he defeated Lyle at the 18th hole in the play-off for third place, for which he earned £11,250.

QUARTER-FINALS: Clark beat D Feherty, 1 up; Lyle beat P Parker, 2 and 1.

British lose face to a lesser American

From John Hennessy, Chantilly

Kelly Leadbetter put a number of faces out of countenance here yesterday. It is one thing for the members of the Women's Professional Golf Association to surrender, as they did last year in the Hennessy Cognac Cup to Jan Stephenson, a leading light of the American touring circuit, quite another to be unable to withstand the lesser attack of Mrs Leadbetter.

This is not to deny the American's qualities, although her best days, one thought, were behind her when she had a baby two years ago, but, having established a strong position in 76, three over par, for a total of 293, while the main thrust ahead came from those who had too much leeway to make up.

Karen Lunz, of Australia, began the stroke play, and behind and never got her nose in front but at seven at the par-four 11th, as it turned out, was decisive. Three behind with three to play, she brought a big gallery under a summer sun to a tie of excitement with a two to Mrs Leadbetter's four at the

short 16th and a sturdy par four to a bogey five at the next.

But the American, with a courageous birdie putt from 12 feet at the last, struck the final blow for a first prize of £9,000.

Alison Nicholas, all five feet of her, hung on grimly in the final match but the summit of her performance was a four-iron to 55 feet over the valley of the 13th. Mrs Leadbetter replied to her wooden club shot well wide of the 14th (170 yards) with a three-iron that curled seductively two feet behind the hole.

A greenside bunker stole two more shots from the little Yorkshirewoman at the 15th and clearly she had shot her bolt. Jane Connaghan, who scored a 72, came through to take third place and a prize of £4,500.

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MOTOR RACING

McLaren's day as Prost leads another procession

From John Blunsden, Monte Carlo

Alain Prost scored his 23rd world championship victory yesterday in recording his third consecutive success in the Monaco Grand Prix. The 78-lap race, which Prost led throughout apart from six laps around the midway point after his stop for fresh tyres, was a triumph for the Marlboro McLaren team, with Keke Rosberg following his team partner home in second place 25 seconds in arrears.

Yet this was a race which Prost did not expect to win, despite starting it from pole position. "I felt that on this track the JPS Lotus of Ayrton Senna and the two Williams cars would have an advantage, so I went to the pits to change to a different tyre," he said. "I think it will make the world championship much more open this year, and I think that we now have a real chance of taking the title again."

Senna, who finished a distant third after what he described as a "very hard race—very exhausting," said that the combination of Prost and the McLaren was simply too much on the day. Even Rosberg was unable to make much impression on the race leader. "Early on I managed to close the gap behind Alain, but I was taking too much out of my tyres in doing so, so I decided it was best to settle for second place. The 1-2 result is very good for the team, and I hope we can do it again soon, only the other way round."

Nigel Mansell, the only other driver to complete the full race distance, did his best for the Canon Williams team with a car which proved to be down on engine power and short of traction, while Nelson Piquet was a lap behind in the other car, in seventh place after intermittent gear selection troubles. A late challenge by Mansell to Senna's third place had to be abandoned when he found his visor covered with an oil film as soon as he closed on the other car.

Ten laps from the end of the race the closest-fought battle, which was for seventh, eighth and ninth places, quickly turned to disaster for Patrick Tambay, who was extremely lucky to escape unharmful from an accident in which his Lola-Ford was launched over the back of Martin Brundle's Tyrrell-Renault, did a barrel-roll coming down on its wheels.

Tambay had attempted to

take Brundle on the inside entering the right-hand Mirabeau, but Brundle was committed to his line and as he turned in to the corner the Lola was squeezed on to the side of the track and launched into the air perilously close to Brundle's head. Brundle's car emerged only lightly damaged, and he was able to drive it slowly back to the pits where it was retired.

A less spectacular incident early in the race involved the other drivers of the same two teams when Alan Jones attempted to pass Philippe Streiff at the Tabac corner, failed, and again the two cars collided. Streiff resumed the race after his Tyrrell had been fitted with a replacement wheel at the pits, and finished eleventh but Jones had to abandon his car in a lay-by near the scene of the incident.

Once again the Monaco Grand Prix had turned into an essentially processionary race, which this year brought an unusually low retirement rate of only eight of the 20 starters before the finish, but they included both the Brabham's, which had been demonstrating rapidly improving form during practice.

Michele Alboreto, after holding an early fourth place with his Ferrari, later dropped back and then had to abandon the race with turbo trouble, while another promising drive by Gerhard Berger, earning him sixth place in his Benetton-BMW by lap 40, came to an end soon afterwards with a drive-line failure.

RESULTS: 1. Alain Prost (France) Marlboro McLaren-TAG 78 laps 1 hr 55 min 41.060 secs, 83.66 mph. 2. Keke Rosberg (Finland) Marlboro Williams-Ford 75 laps 1 hr 56 min 6.540 secs, 83.66 mph. 3. Ayrton Senna (Brazil) JPS Lotus-Renault 1:56.34.706. 4. Nigel Mansell (GB) Canon Williams-Ford 75 laps 1:56.52.462. 5. Thierry Boutsen (Belgium) Benetton-BMW 75 laps 1:56.52.462. 6. Nelson Piquet (Brazil) Canon Williams-Ford 74 laps 1:57.00.000. 7. Nelson Piquet (Brazil) Canon Williams-Ford 74 laps 1:57.00.000. 8. Nelson Piquet (Brazil) Canon Williams-Ford 74 laps 1:57.00.000. 9. Nelson Piquet (Brazil) Canon Williams-Ford 74 laps 1:57.00.000. 10. Nelson Piquet (Brazil) Canon Williams-Ford 74 laps 1:57.00.000. 11. Nelson Piquet (Brazil) Canon Williams-Ford 74 laps 1:57.00.000. 12. Nelson Piquet (Brazil) Canon Williams-Ford 74 laps 1:57.00.000. 13. Nelson Piquet (Brazil) Canon Williams-Ford 74 laps 1:57.00.000. 14. Nelson Piquet (Brazil) Canon Williams-Ford 74 laps 1:57.00.000. 15. Nelson Piquet (Brazil) Canon Williams-Ford 74 laps 1:57.00.000. 16. Nelson Piquet (Brazil) Canon Williams-Ford 74 laps 1:57.00.000. 17. Nelson Piquet (Brazil) Canon Williams-Ford 74 laps 1:57.00.000. 18. Nelson Piquet (Brazil) Canon Williams-Ford 74 laps 1:57.00.000. 19. Nelson Piquet (Brazil) Canon Williams-Ford 74 laps 1:57.00.000. 20. Nelson Piquet (Brazil) Canon Williams-Ford 74 laps 1:57.00.000.

WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP: Drivers: Prost 22 points, 2 Senna 19, 3 Piquet 15, 4 Rosberg 11, 5 Mansell 9, 6 Berger 6, 7 Alboreto 5, 8 Jones 3, 9 Streiff 2, 10 Brundle 1, 11 Tambay 0, 12 Brundle 0, 13 Tambay 0, 14 Brundle 0, 15 Tambay 0, 16 Brundle 0, 17 Tambay 0, 18 Brundle 0, 19 Tambay 0, 20 Brundle 0.

CONSTRUCTOR: McLaren 22 points, 2 Williams 19, 3 Ferrari 15, 4 Lotus 11, 5 Benetton 9, 6 Tyrrell 6, 7 Williams 5, 8 Ferrari 4, 9 Williams 3, 10 Williams 2, 11 Williams 1, 12 Williams 0, 13 Williams 0, 14 Williams 0, 15 Williams 0, 16 Williams 0, 17 Williams 0, 18 Williams 0, 19 Williams 0, 20 Williams 0.

POLO

Withers leads Cowdray to trophy triumph

By John Watson

The Cowdray Park medium-grade programme continued yesterday in cool and breezy conditions on the Amberthorpe No.1 ground which looked very smooth and springy, this being the first time it has been used this season.

The opening match, a quarter final duel for the five-chukka Texaco Trophy, was between the home team, Cowdray Park, piloted on Paul Withers, and Southfield, whose strongest man is the American nine-goaler, Owen Rinehart.

Southfield, aggregating a team handicap of 15 against Cowdray's 14, conceded half goal at the outset. Cowdray's No.1, Tim Walker, who only started playing polo last summer, opened the account, and Southfield trailed throughout.

Rinehart flew in from the United States a couple of hours before the match and although he was beautifully mounted by the Yeoman brothers, he was scarcely playing up to his handicap.

Cowdray were much better

co-ordinated, particularly the strong duo of the veteran, V. Withers and the younger, Juris Santos, who was standing in for Charles Pearson. They had a most dependable back in Martin Glue. Cowdray won 10-4.

For the second encounter, a Cicero Cup quarter-final, Gordon Withers and the veteran, Juris Santos, who was standing in for Charles Pearson, they had a most dependable back in Martin Glue. Cowdray won 10-4.

Both goals were closely defended and the scoreboard showed 2-2 at treading in time. Body Shop, centred on Britain's leading player, Julian Hipwood, ably supported by the former, jumping exponent, Johnny Kidd, had the edge and won 5-3.

BODY SHOP: 1. G. Roddick (R), 2. J. Kidd (L), 3. J. Kidd (R), 4. J. Kidd (L), 5. J. Kidd (R), 6. J. Kidd (L), 7. J. Kidd (R), 8. J. Kidd (L), 9. J. Kidd (R), 10. J. Kidd (L).

AMBERTHORPE: 1. G. Roddick (R), 2. J. Kidd (L), 3. J. Kidd (R), 4. J. Kidd (L), 5. J. Kidd (R), 6. J. Kidd (L), 7. J. Kidd (R), 8. J. Kidd (L), 9. J. Kidd (R), 10. J. Kidd (L).

YESTERDAY'S OTHER SCORES

Glamorgan v Leics

AT SWANSEA

Glamorgan (4pts) beat Leicestershire by 6 wickets.

LEICESTERSHIRE: 1. D. Lloyd (R), 2. D. Lloyd (L), 3. D. Lloyd (R), 4. D. Lloyd (L), 5. D. Lloyd (R), 6. D. Lloyd (L), 7. D. Lloyd (R), 8. D. Lloyd (L), 9. D. Lloyd (R), 10. D. Lloyd (L).

Glamorgan: 1. D. Lloyd (R), 2. D. Lloyd (L), 3. D. Lloyd (R), 4. D. Lloyd (L), 5. D. Lloyd (R), 6. D. Lloyd (L), 7. D. Lloyd (R), 8. D. Lloyd (L), 9. D. Lloyd (R), 10. D. Lloyd (L).

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-15, 2-41, 3-88, 4-100, 5-100, 6-100, 7-100, 8-100, 9-100, 10-100.

BOWLING: Thomas 7-25-1, Bone 5-0-19-0, Dennis 8-1-18-1, Oxtoby 1-1-25-1, Steele 5-0-17-1, Holmes 7-0-22-2.

GLAMORGAN: 1. D. Lloyd (R), 2. D. Lloyd (L), 3. D. Lloyd (R), 4. D. Lloyd (L), 5. D. Lloyd (R), 6. D. Lloyd (L), 7. D. Lloyd (R), 8. D. Lloyd (L), 9. D. Lloyd (R), 10. D. Lloyd (L).

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-15, 2-41, 3-88, 4-100, 5-100, 6-100, 7-100, 8-100, 9-100, 10-100.

BOWLING: Thomas 7-25-1, Bone 5-0-19-0, Dennis 8-1-18-1, Oxtoby 1-1-25-1, Steele 5-0-17-1, Holmes 7-0-22-2.

GLAMORGAN: 1. D. Lloyd (R), 2. D. Lloyd (L), 3. D. Lloyd (R), 4. D. Lloyd (L), 5. D. Lloyd (R), 6. D. Lloyd (L), 7. D. Lloyd (R), 8. D. Lloyd (L), 9. D. Lloyd (R), 10. D. Lloyd (L).

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-15, 2-41, 3-88, 4-100, 5-100, 6-100, 7-100, 8-100, 9-100, 10-100.

BOWLING: Thomas 7-25-1, Bone 5-0-19-0, Dennis 8-1-18-1, Oxtoby 1-1-25-1, Steele 5-0-17-1, Holmes 7-0-22-2.

GLAMORGAN: 1. D. Lloyd (R), 2. D. Lloyd (L), 3. D. Lloyd (R), 4. D. Lloyd (L), 5. D. Lloyd (R), 6. D. Lloyd (L), 7. D. Lloyd (R), 8. D. Lloyd (L), 9. D. Lloyd (R), 10. D. Lloyd (L).

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-15, 2-41, 3-88, 4-100, 5-100, 6-100, 7-100, 8-100, 9-100, 10-100.

BOWLING: Thomas 7-25-1, Bone 5-0-19-0, Dennis 8-1-18-1, Oxtoby 1-1-25-1, Steele 5-0-17-1, Holmes 7-0-22-2.

GLAMORGAN: 1. D. Lloyd (R), 2. D. Lloyd (L), 3. D. Lloyd (R), 4. D. Lloyd (L), 5. D. Lloyd (R), 6. D. Lloyd (L), 7. D. Lloyd (R), 8. D. Lloyd (L), 9. D. Lloyd (R), 10. D. Lloyd (L).

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-15, 2-41, 3-88, 4-100, 5-100, 6-100, 7-100, 8-100, 9-100, 10-100.

BOWLING: Thomas 7-25-1, Bone 5-0-19-0, Dennis 8-1-18-1, Oxtoby 1-1-25-1, Steele 5-0-17-1, Holmes 7-0-22-2.

GLAMORGAN: 1. D. Lloyd (R), 2. D. Lloyd (L), 3. D. Lloyd (R), 4. D. Lloyd (L), 5. D. Lloyd (R), 6. D. Lloyd (L), 7. D. Lloyd (R), 8. D. Lloyd (L), 9. D. Lloyd (R), 10. D. Lloyd (L).

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-15, 2-41, 3-88, 4-100, 5-100, 6-100, 7-100, 8-100, 9-100, 10-100.

BOWLING: Thomas 7-25-1, Bone 5-0-19-0, Dennis 8-1-18-1, Oxtoby 1-1-25-1, Steele 5-0-17-1, Holmes 7-0-22-2.

GLAMORGAN: 1. D. Lloyd (R), 2. D. Lloyd (L), 3. D. Lloyd (R), 4. D. Lloyd (L), 5. D. Lloyd (R), 6. D. Lloyd (L), 7. D. Lloyd (R), 8. D. Lloyd (L), 9. D. Lloyd (R), 10. D. Lloyd (L).

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-15, 2-41, 3-88, 4-100, 5-100, 6-100, 7-100, 8-100, 9-100, 10-100.

BOWLING: Thomas 7-25-1, Bone 5-0-19-0, Dennis 8-1-18-1, Oxtoby 1-1-25-1, Steele 5-0-17-1, Holmes 7-0-22-2.

GLAMORGAN: 1. D. Lloyd (R), 2. D. Lloyd (L), 3. D. Lloyd (R), 4. D. Lloyd (L), 5. D. Lloyd (R), 6. D. Lloyd (L), 7. D. Lloyd (R), 8. D. Lloyd (L), 9. D. Lloyd (R), 10. D. Lloyd (L).

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-15, 2-41, 3-88, 4-100, 5-100, 6-100, 7-100, 8-100, 9-100, 10-100.

BOWLING: Thomas 7-25-1, Bone 5-0-19-0, Dennis 8-1-18-1, Oxtoby 1-1-25-1, Steele 5-0-17-1, Holmes 7-0-22-2.

GLAMORGAN: 1. D. Lloyd (R), 2. D. Lloyd (L), 3. D. Lloyd (R), 4. D. Lloyd (L), 5. D. Lloyd (R), 6. D. Lloyd (L), 7. D. Lloyd (R), 8. D. Lloyd (L), 9. D. Lloyd (R), 10. D. Lloyd (L).

Notts v Warwick

AT TRENT BRIDGE

Warwickshire (4pts) beat Nottinghamshire by 40 runs.

WARWICKSHIRE: 1. D. Lloyd (R), 2. D. Lloyd (L), 3. D. Lloyd (R), 4. D. Lloyd (L), 5. D. Lloyd (R), 6. D. Lloyd (L), 7. D. Lloyd (R), 8. D. Lloyd (L), 9. D. Lloyd (R), 10. D. Lloyd (L).

Warwickshire: 1. D. Lloyd (R), 2. D. Lloyd (L), 3. D. Lloyd (R), 4. D. Lloyd (L), 5. D. Lloyd (R), 6. D. Lloyd (L), 7. D. Lloyd (R), 8. D. Lloyd (L), 9. D. Lloyd (R), 10. D. Lloyd (L).

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-15, 2-41, 3-88, 4-100, 5-100, 6-100, 7-100, 8-100, 9-100, 10-100.

BOWLING: Thomas 7-25-1, Bone 5-0-19-0, Dennis 8-1-18-1, Oxtoby 1-1-25-1, Steele 5-0-17-1, Holmes 7-0-22-2.

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE: 1. D. Lloyd (R), 2. D. Lloyd (L), 3. D. Lloyd (R), 4. D. Lloyd (L), 5. D. Lloyd (R), 6. D. Lloyd (L), 7. D. Lloyd (R), 8. D. Lloyd (L), 9. D. Lloyd (R), 10. D. Lloyd (L).

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-15, 2-41, 3-88, 4-100, 5-100, 6-100, 7-100, 8-100, 9-100, 10-100.

BOWLING: Thomas 7-25-1, Bone 5-0-19-0, Dennis 8-1-18-1, Oxtoby 1-1-25-1, Steele 5-0-17-1, Holmes 7-0-22-2.

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE: 1. D. Lloyd (R), 2. D. Lloyd (L), 3. D. Lloyd (R), 4. D. Lloyd (L), 5. D. Lloyd (R), 6. D. Lloyd (L), 7. D. Lloyd (R), 8. D. Lloyd (L), 9. D. Lloyd (R), 10. D. Lloyd (L).

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-15, 2-41, 3-88, 4-100, 5-100, 6-100, 7-100, 8-100, 9-100, 10-100.

BOWLING: Thomas 7-25-1, Bone 5-0-19-0, Dennis 8-1-18-1, Oxtoby 1-1-25-1, Steele 5-0-17-1, Holmes 7-0-22-2.

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE: 1. D. Lloyd (R), 2. D. Lloyd (L), 3. D. Lloyd (R), 4. D. Lloyd (L), 5. D. Lloyd (R), 6. D. Lloyd (L), 7. D. Lloyd (R), 8. D. Lloyd (L), 9. D. Lloyd (R), 10. D. Lloyd (L).

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-15, 2-41, 3-88, 4-100, 5-100, 6-100, 7-100, 8-100, 9-100, 10-100.

BOWLING: Thomas 7-25-1, Bone 5-0-19-0, Dennis 8-1-18-1, Oxtoby 1-1-25-1, Steele 5-0-17-1, Holmes 7-0-22-2.

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE: 1. D. Lloyd (R), 2. D. Lloyd (L), 3. D. Lloyd (R), 4. D. Lloyd (L), 5. D. Lloyd (R), 6. D. Lloyd (L), 7. D. Lloyd (R), 8. D. Lloyd (L), 9. D. Lloyd (R), 10. D. Lloyd (L).

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-15, 2-41, 3-88, 4-100, 5-100, 6-100, 7-100, 8-100, 9-100, 10-100.

BOWLING: Thomas 7-25-1, Bone 5-0-19-0, Dennis 8-1-18-1, Oxtoby 1-1-25-1, Steele 5-0-17-1, Holmes 7-0-22-2.

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE: 1. D. Lloyd (R), 2. D. Lloyd (L), 3. D. Lloyd (R), 4. D. Lloyd (L), 5. D. Lloyd (R), 6. D. Lloyd (L), 7. D. Lloyd (R), 8. D. Lloyd (L), 9. D. Lloyd (R), 10. D. Lloyd (L).

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-15, 2-41, 3-88, 4-100, 5-100, 6-100, 7-100, 8-100, 9-100, 10-100.

BOWLING: Thomas 7-25-1, Bone 5-0-19-0, Dennis 8-1-18-1, Oxtoby 1-1-25-1, Steele 5-0-17-1, Holmes 7-0-22-2.

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE: 1. D. Lloyd (R), 2. D. Lloyd (L), 3. D. Lloyd (R), 4. D. Lloyd (L), 5. D. Lloyd (R), 6. D. Lloyd (L), 7. D. Lloyd (R), 8. D. Lloyd (L), 9. D. Lloyd (R), 10. D. Lloyd (L).

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-15, 2-41, 3-88, 4-100, 5-100, 6-100, 7-100, 8-100, 9-100, 10-100.

BOWLING: Thomas 7-25-1, Bone 5-0-19-0, Dennis 8-1-18-1, Oxtoby 1-1-25-1, Steele 5-0-17-1, Holmes 7-0-22-2.

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE: 1. D. Lloyd (R), 2. D. Lloyd (L), 3. D. Lloyd (R), 4. D. Lloyd (L), 5. D. Lloyd (R), 6. D. Lloyd (L), 7. D. Lloyd (R), 8. D. Lloyd (L), 9. D. Lloyd (R), 10. D. Lloyd (L).

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-15, 2-41, 3-88, 4-100, 5-100, 6-100, 7-100, 8-100, 9-100, 10-100.

BOWLING: Thomas 7-25-1, Bone 5-0-19-0, Dennis 8-1-18-1, Oxtoby 1-1-25-1, Steele 5-0-17-1, Holmes 7-0-22-2.

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE: 1. D. Lloyd (R), 2. D. Lloyd (L), 3. D. Lloyd (R), 4. D. Lloyd (L), 5. D. Lloyd (R), 6. D. Lloyd (L), 7. D. Lloyd (R), 8. D. Lloyd (L), 9. D. Lloyd (R), 10. D. Lloyd (L).



Happy landing after lift-off: Tambay's Lola-Ford back on its wheels after flying over Brundle's Tyrrell-Renault and doing a barrel-roll in mid-air

Bairstow keeps up winning ways in rollicking style

By John Woodcock, Cricket Correspondent

THE OVAL: Yorkshire (4pts)

beat Surrey by six wickets.

YORKSHIRE: 1. D. Lloyd (R), 2. D. Lloyd (L), 3. D. Lloyd (R), 4. D. Lloyd (L), 5. D. Lloyd (R), 6. D. Lloyd (L), 7. D. Lloyd (R), 8. D. Lloyd (L), 9. D. Lloyd (R), 10. D. Lloyd (L).

YORKSHIRE: 1. D. Lloyd (R), 2. D. Lloyd (L), 3. D. Lloyd (R), 4. D. Lloyd (L), 5. D. Lloyd (R), 6. D. Lloyd (L), 7. D. Lloyd (R), 8. D. Lloyd (L), 9. D. Lloyd (R), 10. D. Lloyd (L).

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-15, 2-41, 3-88, 4-100, 5-100, 6-100, 7-100, 8-100, 9-100, 10-100.

BOWLING: Thomas 7-25-1, Bone 5-0-19-0, Dennis 8-1-18-1, Oxtoby 1-1-25-1, Steele 5-0-17-1, Holmes 7-0-22-2.

SURREY: 1. D. Lloyd (R), 2. D. Lloyd (L), 3. D. Lloyd (R), 4. D. Lloyd (L), 5. D. Lloyd (R), 6. D. Lloyd (L), 7. D. Lloyd (R), 8. D. Lloyd (L), 9. D. Lloyd (R), 10. D. Lloyd (L).

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-15, 2-41, 3-88, 4-100, 5-100, 6-100, 7-100, 8-100, 9-100, 10-100.

BOWLING: Thomas 7-25-1, Bone 5-0-19-0, Dennis 8-1-18-1, Oxtoby 1-1-25-1, Steele 5-0-17-1, Holmes 7-0-22-2.

YORKSHIRE: 1. D. Lloyd (R), 2. D. Lloyd (L), 3. D. Lloyd (R), 4. D. Lloyd (L), 5. D. Lloyd (R), 6. D. Lloyd (L), 7. D. Lloyd (R), 8. D. Lloyd (L), 9. D. Lloyd (R), 10. D. Lloyd (L).

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-15, 2-41, 3-88, 4-100, 5-100, 6-100, 7-100, 8-100, 9-100, 10-100.

BOWLING: Thomas 7-25-1, Bone 5-0-19-0, Dennis 8-1-18-1, Oxtoby 1-1-25-1, Steele 5-0-17-1, Holmes 7-0-22-2.

YORKSHIRE: 1. D. Lloyd (R), 2. D. Lloyd (L), 3. D. Lloyd (R), 4. D. Lloyd (L), 5. D. Lloyd (R), 6. D. Lloyd (L), 7. D. Lloyd (R), 8. D. Lloyd (L), 9. D. Lloyd (R), 10. D. Lloyd (L).

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-15, 2-41, 3-88, 4-100, 5-100, 6-100, 7-100, 8-100, 9-100, 10-100.

BOWLING: Thomas 7-25-1, Bone 5-0-19-0, Dennis 8-1-18-1, Oxtoby 1-1-25-1, Steele 5-0-17-1, Holmes 7-0-22-2.

YORKSHIRE: 1. D. Lloyd (R), 2. D. Lloyd (L), 3. D. Lloyd (R), 4. D. Lloyd (L), 5. D. Lloyd (R), 6. D. Lloyd (L), 7. D. Lloyd (R), 8. D. Lloyd (L), 9. D. Lloyd (R), 10. D. Lloyd (L).

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-15, 2-41, 3-88, 4-100, 5-100, 6-100, 7-100, 8-100, 9-100, 10-100.

BOWLING: Thomas 7-25-1, Bone 5-0-19-0, Dennis 8-1-18-1, Oxtoby 1-1-25-1, Steele 5-0-17-1, Holmes 7-0-22-2.

Merseyside is proving itself second to none

By Stuart Jones,
Football Correspondent

It is a chilling thought that, but for unwittingly contributing to their own downfall by scoring two own goals against Queen's Park Rangers in the Milk Cup semi-final, Liverpool would have been expected to beat Oxford United last month and thus achieve a clean sweep. Instead, after Saturday's 3-1 defeat of Everton, they had to be satisfied merely with the double.

As it is, Dalglish's first season in charge has been buried beneath an avalanche of honours. His team matched the feats of Tottenham Hotspur in 1961 and Arsenal in 1971, and he himself was awarded the title of manager of the year as well as the freedom of his home town of Glasgow.

Providing Everton are not tempted to sell Linaker, the player of the year who took his total for his remarkable season to 40 goals, and Liverpool similarly retain Rush, who claimed a mere 32, only a wild optimist would foresee the end of Merseyside's crushing domination next season. It could stretch far into the future.

A banner cruelly proclaimed that "Manchester is a trophy-free zone". So it might have added, is London. Yet it is doubtful that any two other cities would have put on a performance of higher quality on the pitch or a display of such warm-hearted friendliness.

Since the occasion was witnessed by an estimated audience of 200 million in some 20 countries across the globe, the behaviour of the crowd was crucial to the nation's reputation that was damaged so severely in Brussels a year ago. It was appropriate the season of rehabilitation should close as it did.

Wembley echoed to the chants of "Merseyside" (they might as well have been "Everpool" or "Liver-ton"). The red ribbons were tied to the FA Cup but, though Kendall's men and their supporters were obliged once more to bow to their neighbours' supremacy, the hand of friendship was wrapped around the whole of the national stadium.

In front of Liverpool it was not always so amicable. Liverpool had been in an uncharacteristic mess. Disoriented, distracted and in disarray, they were fighting not so much for supremacy over their neighbours but, at the height of their distress, they were seen to be scrapping with each other. Never before had they indulged in such public disagreement.

At the end of several minutes of extreme discomfort.

ROLL OF HONOUR

Liverpool's major achievements over the last 23 seasons

Under Bill Shankly

1963-64 League champions
1964-65 FA Cup winners
1965-66 League champions

1970-71 FA Cup winners
1972-73 UEFA Cup winners
1973-74 League runners-up
FA Cup winners

Under Bob Paisley

1974-75 League runners-up
1975-76 League champions
1976-77 FA Cup winners

1977-78 European Cup winners
1978-79 League Cup winners
1979-80 Super Cup winners

1979-80 League champions
1980-81 European Cup winners

1980-81 European Cup winners

1980-81 European Cup winners

1980-81 European Cup winners

1980-81 European Cup winners

1980-81 European Cup winners

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1980-81 European Cup winners

1980-81 European Cup winners

1980-81 European Cup winners

Under Joe Fagan

1983-84 League champions
1984-85 League Cup winners
1985-86 European Cup winners

1986-87 League runners-up
1987-88 European Cup winners

1988-89 League Cup winners

1989-90 League Cup winners

1990-91 League Cup winners

1991-92 League Cup winners

1992-93 League Cup winners

1993-94 League Cup winners

1994-95 League Cup winners

1995-96 League Cup winners

1996-97 League Cup winners

1997-98 League Cup winners

1998-99 League Cup winners

1999-00 League Cup winners

2000-01 League Cup winners

2001-02 League Cup winners

2002-03 League Cup winners

2003-04 League Cup winners

2004-05 League Cup winners

2005-06 League Cup winners

2006-07 League Cup winners

2007-08 League Cup winners

2008-09 League Cup winners

2009-10 League Cup winners

2010-11 League Cup winners

2011-12 League Cup winners

2012-13 League Cup winners

2013-14 League Cup winners

2014-15 League Cup winners

2015-16 League Cup winners

2016-17 League Cup winners

2017-18 League Cup winners

2018-19 League Cup winners

2019-20 League Cup winners

2020-21 League Cup winners

2021-22 League Cup winners

2022-23 League Cup winners

2023-24 League Cup winners

2024-25 League Cup winners

2025-26 League Cup winners

2026-27 League Cup winners

2027-28 League Cup winners

2028-29 League Cup winners

2029-30 League Cup winners

2030-31 League Cup winners

2031-32 League Cup winners

2032-33 League Cup winners

Under Kenny Dalglish

1985-86 League champions
1986-87 FA Cup winners

1987-88 League Cup winners

1988-89 League Cup winners

1989-90 League Cup winners

1990-91 League Cup winners

1991-92 League Cup winners

1992-93 League Cup winners

1993-94 League Cup winners

1994-95 League Cup winners

1995-96 League Cup winners

1996-97 League Cup winners

1997-98 League Cup winners

1998-99 League Cup winners

1999-00 League Cup winners

2000-01 League Cup winners

2001-02 League Cup winners

2002-03 League Cup winners

2003-04 League Cup winners

2004-05 League Cup winners

2005-06 League Cup winners

2006-07 League Cup winners

2007-08 League Cup winners

2008-09 League Cup winners

2009-10 League Cup winners

2010-11 League Cup winners

2011-12 League Cup winners

2012-13 League Cup winners

2013-14 League Cup winners

2014-15 League Cup winners

2015-16 League Cup winners

2016-17 League Cup winners

2017-18 League Cup winners

2018-19 League Cup winners

2019-20 League Cup winners

2020-21 League Cup winners

2021-22 League Cup winners

2022-23 League Cup winners

2023-24 League Cup winners

2024-25 League Cup winners

2025-26 League Cup winners

2026-27 League Cup winners

2027-28 League Cup winners

2028-29 League Cup winners

2029-30 League Cup winners

2030-31 League Cup winners

2031-32 League Cup winners

2032-33 League Cup winners

Under Kenny Dalglish

1985-86 League champions
1986-87 FA Cup winners

1987-88 League Cup winners

1988-89 League Cup winners

1989-90 League Cup winners

1990-91 League Cup winners

1991-92 League Cup winners

1992-93 League Cup winners

1993-94 League Cup winners

1994-95 League Cup winners

1995-96 League Cup winners

1996-97 League Cup winners

1997-98 League Cup winners

1998-99 League Cup winners

1999-00 League Cup winners

2000-01 League Cup winners

2001-02 League Cup winners

2002-03 League Cup winners

2003-04 League Cup winners

2004-05 League Cup winners

2005-06 League Cup winners

2006-07 League Cup winners

2007-08 League Cup winners

2008-09 League Cup winners

2009-10 League Cup winners

2010-11 League Cup winners

2011-12 League Cup winners

2012-13 League Cup winners

2013-14 League Cup winners

2014-15 League Cup winners

2015-16 League Cup winners

2016-17 League Cup winners

2017-18 League Cup winners

2018-19 League Cup winners

2019-20 League Cup winners

2020-21 League Cup winners

2021-22 League Cup winners

2022-23 League Cup winners

2023-24 League Cup winners

2024-25 League Cup winners

2025-26 League Cup winners

2026-27 League Cup winners

2027-28 League Cup winners

2028-29 League Cup winners

2029-30 League Cup winners

2030-31 League Cup winners

2031-32 League Cup winners

2032-33 League Cup winners

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1996-97 League Cup winners

1997-98 League Cup winners

1998-99 League Cup winners

1999-00 League Cup winners

2000-01 League Cup winners

2001-02 League Cup winners

2002-03 League Cup winners

2003-04 League Cup winners

2004-05 League Cup winners

2005-06 League Cup winners

2006-07 League Cup winners

2007-08 League Cup winners

2008-09 League Cup winners

2009-10 League Cup winners

2010-11 League Cup winners

2011-12 League Cup winners

2012-13 League Cup winners

2013-14 League Cup winners

2014-15 League Cup winners

2015-16 League Cup winners

2016-17 League Cup winners

2017-18 League Cup winners

2018-19 League Cup winners

2019-20 League Cup winners

2020-21 League Cup winners

2021-22 League Cup winners

2022-23 League Cup winners

2023-24 League Cup winners

2024-25 League Cup winners

2025-26 League Cup winners

2026-27 League Cup winners

2027-28 League Cup winners

2028-29 League Cup winners

2029-30 League Cup winners